# WORKS IN PROGRESS

VOLUME 14, NUMBER 6 | THURSTON COUNTY RAINBOW COALITION | OCTOBER 2003


# OPD Reports are Inconsistent

John Regan being arrested on March 20th by OPD. (left) Ms. Stockwell's coat with mud from the motorcycle's tire. (right) -Photos by Kayden

**Drew Hendricks**

Discrepancies in the reports written by Olympia police officers that were involved in an incident at the March 20th anti-war demonstration at the Capital Campus have been uncovered by Olympia Copwatch.

Detective Donald S Heinze wrote in his report that fellow officer, Paul R Bakala, "…went to the ground" with a person Officer Bakala had just thrown down. Yet Officer Bakala, in his own report, never mentions this.

An Olympian reporter took pictures of Officer Bakala hurling John Regan, a 55-year-old Olympia resident, to the concrete. The pictures were posted to the Olympian's website later that day. No picture on the Olympian's website showed Officer Bakala on the ground, as Detective Heinze had claimed in his report. The sequence of pictures on the website shows that Officer Bakala was well away from the crowd when he threw Mr. Regan down to the sidewalk. Several of the pictures were collected from the web by the police department and included in their official report.

Officer Bakala justified throwing Mr. Regan by writing that "Based on the growing crowd yelling at us and his increasing hostile behavior I decided to take Regan to the ground to control him. I directed Regan to the ground by implementing a modified arm bar takedown." Yet Officer Bakala offers no explanation for how the crowd's behavior would have been influenced by his actions, nor does he accept responsibility for the escalation of violence it represented. Other officers described the crowd surging toward the pair, chanting "Let him go, let him go." Photos on the Olympian website clearly show that the crowd's reaction happened only after Officer Bakala slammed Mr. Regan to the pavement.

John Regan was arrested March 20th by Officer Bakala after Mr. Regan intervened between his friend, Lynne Stockwell, and another police officer riding a motorcycle, Edward J Dawson. Police claimed that Mr. Regan was resisting arrest and obstructing Officer Dawson. The City of Olympia is prosecuting Mr. Regan. Lynne Stockwell was not taken into custody.

***"Discrepancies between Detective Heinze and Officer Dawson's official reports were also discovered in their descriptions of Officer Dawson's approach to Ms. Stockwell."***

Fellow officers Donald Heinze and Christopher B. Cook responded to the scene and pepper sprayed the crowd, which had rushed to loudly protest Officer Bakala's violent treatment of John Regan.

Discrepancies between Detective Heinze and Officer Dawson's official reports were also discovered in their descriptions of Officer Dawson's approach to Ms. Stockwell. Detective Heinze wrote that "Offc. Dawson began pushing her off the street, with his hands, from a seated position on his motorcycle. Offc. Dawson pushed the female up onto the curb." Yet, Officer Dawson wrote that "As soon as she would walk I would move forward very slowly maintaining a cushion of approximately 2 feet between her and the front of my motorcycle." It was not clear from the report just how long Officer Dawson's arms are, or how he was controlling his motorcycle with both of his hands on Ms. Stockwell. Officer Dawson's report simply did not describe him ever touching Ms. Stockwell.

***"As soon as she would walk I would move forward very slowly maintaining a cushion of approximately 2 feet between her and the front of my motorcycle."***

Due to the court case against Mr. Regan, and the complaint filed by other witnesses against the Olympia Police Department as a result of the incident, eyewitnesses to the scene declined comment for publication.

Records obtained from the Police Auditor reveal that the internal investigation had not yet been completed by September 10th, almost six months after the 30-day deadline normally imposed by Olympia's process for internal review. The indictment, on the other hand, was signed on the 25th of August – just after the internal review went to the City Attorney's office.

Officers Anthony J Rios, Cori A Schumacher, James G Partin, and Douglas B Curtwright also wrote reports about their participation in the events. Officer Cook mentions undercover Washington State Patrol "…plain clothes officers on scene…" reporting that they "… identified at least four anarchist that infiltrated the 'peaceful protestors.'"(sic). He did not elaborate on their method for identifying "anarchist(s)." The plainclothes officers were not named in the OPD reports.

# No Confidence in Olympia Council Challengers

**Terry Piper**

As a concerned and conscientious voter, I've gone to a number of the forums held for the Olympia City Council Candidates. I am a low-income renter that values the local community scene – that's my bias. I usually prefer to explore each candidate's positions to decide who is best for office — who is the most likely to represent my interests in their council seat. I don't vote party lines and in non-partisan races like the Olympia City Council, I'd prefer to talk about each candidate separately. But what is being offered defies my usual process and I will be talking rather generally instead about the incumbents versus the challengers. All the opponents are unimpressive and, except for Sarah Jewett, don't offer the energy or vision the council or people need. Unimpressive Sandra Miller is challenging incumbent Laura Ware and unimpressive Dave Kent is challenging incumbent TJ Johnson (yes, I know TJ isn't holding his seat since it is an open race, but he is a former councilmember and therefore for the purposes of this analysis considered to be the incumbent.) I'm focusing on the latter two council races and not the Mayoral bid.

Ware and Johnson are as close as we get to populist fighters and they have been strong voices on the council for renters, poor folks and people who want Olympia to be a friendly city rather than a shopping mall. Miller and Kent treat us with no respect, hoping to sail with the votes of their friends and win without giving a clue as to what they are about. I hope we are not stupid voters who'll vote for whichever candidate speaks less…

The Coalition of Low-Income Power forum put the question to the candidates of what are they going to do about poverty in Olympia. They were supplied with background material pointing out Olympia's middle-class has disappeared — indeed over the last 10 years, the top 20% of the wage earners in Olympia has increased from equaling the bottom 60% of wage earners to now equal the rest of Olympia! Now more than ever, you are either one of the 'haves' or the 'have-nots.' Juxtapose this modern-day reality with the forum defining quote from Washington's first Governor John Rogers: "I would make it impossible for the covetous and avaricious to utterly impoverish the poor. The rich can take care of themselves."

No one had a master plan to deal with poverty and no one directly addressed

*(continued page 7)*

## Resist the Patriot Act!

To date, 167 communities in the U.S. have passed anti-Patriot Act resolutions. You can help to add our fair city of Olympia to this list. On October 7, the Olympia City Council will vote whether or not to endorse an anti-Patriot Act proposal submitted last month by the Thurston County Coalition to Protect the Constitution. You can show your support for this resolution by coming to the Olympia City Council meeting on October 7 at 900 Plum St. at 7pm, sending an email to ThurstonResCoalition@yahoogroups.com or by calling Bruce at 456-7180.

# WORKS IN PROGRESS

*Works In Progress* is a community newspaper sponsored by the Thurston County Rainbow Coalition. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Rainbow Coalition or the Workers In Progress and are solely those of the authors.

**Submissions:**

Correspondence, articles, art, and photographs are always welcome. Please, when possible, put articles on a 3.5" IBM-compatible disk (text preferred) or via e-mail. Artwork and photos should be camera-ready/ black & white.

WIP reserves the right to publish in whole or part all submissions. For editing purposes, please enclose your phone number.

Articles may be reprinted. Please cite source.

***If you don't see your issue being covered in Works In Progress, it's because you aren't writing about it! Or you aren't submitting it!***

Send submissions to Works In Progress, PO Box 295, Olympia, WA 98507-0295, <wip@olywa.net>

**Back Issues:**

Get your catalog of indexed WIPs below. Some back issues are available in the Timberland Library system. WIP is being archived on microfilm by the UW Library.

**WORKERS IN PROGRESS**

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**Mission Statement:**

"Our aim is to confront injustice and encourage a participatory democracy based on economic, social, and environmental justice. Works In Progress is dedicated to providing a voice for those most affected by the exclusionary and unfair practices that seek to silence the oppressed."

**Anti-Discrimination Clause:**

We will collectively endeavor to be sensitive and respectful to all those oppressed in this society, and their issues. However, if and when we should make a mistake in this regard, we expect to acknowledge it and to express regret for injury or insult given.

**Governing Tool:**

The following statement will become part of the Editorial Policy and will be the governing tool for the Anti-Discrimination Clause: *WIP will make every effort to work with the contributor of material considered by WIP to be offensive in order to reach a mutually agreed upon resolution, but WIP reserves the right as a last resort to edit or not print submitted material.*


## WIP Schedule

**Submission Deadline:**

**Friday, October 24th**

**WIP Meeting**

**Sunday October 26th**

**Call for more info**


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PO Box 295 Olympia, WA 98507
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## Announcements, etc.

### Stories of Human Treasures

Heartsparkle Players° will be honoring elders who bring wisdom, compassion, talent and vision to our commuities. Playback Theatre is a spontaneous collaboration between performers and audience. People tell moments from their lives, then watch them re-created with movement, music and dialogue. **Friday, October 17th° 7:30 p.m. at Traditions Cafe** - 300 5th Ave SW . Cost: Suggested donation $5.00 to $10.00 (No one is turned away). For more info: www.heartsparkle.org

Each month we invite a guest artist, community organization, arts program or social service agency to be a part of our performance. Through this collaboration we acknowledge and honor the work individuals and organizations do in our community.

### WIP Needs Transcribers!

Works In Progress needs a few good transcriptionists! If you have been wondering how you might contribute to your local radical free newspaper (that's us), and you have the skill and/ or willingness to transcribe interviews and the like, then we have a job for you! (Unless you were hoping for monetary remuneration.) If interested, please call us at (360)956-1168.

### An Apology for My Readers

First, let me take this oportunity to deeply thank the WiPsters and readers of WiP and "Up Front" for your kindness and loyalty through the years. You're terrific.

I must also apologize for the absence of "Up Front" for the past few months. I've been extremely busy with taking care of my family and working. Despite my best efforts, I just haven't had time to write—despite a wealth of inspiration and material! "Up Front" takes at least 3 hours a month to write, and if I can't do it right then I won't do it. I owe us all that much.

At this point, things look like they're finally about to slow down. There will definitely be a column for the November WiP. I want you to know I've really missed you.

Again, my grateful thanks to all of you—WiPsters, readers, and those who are both!

—Jerome Johnson,
22 September 2003

**Announcements, etc. continued page 14**

**BEFORE YOU FORGET, GET INVOLVED! (SEE BELOW)**


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Green Pages is a forum for individuals and organizations concerned about the integrity of our environment and the quality of life in our community.

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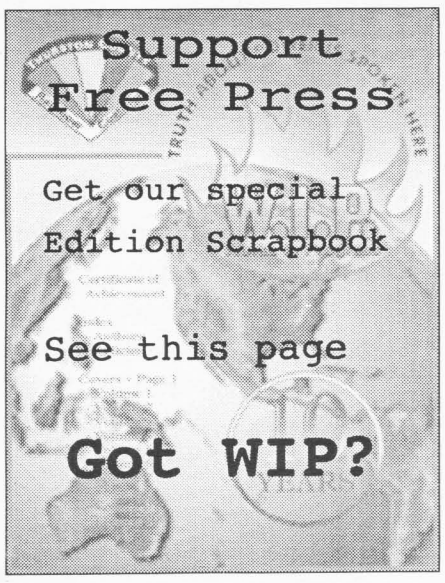


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# OCTOBER 2003

# Women would save the world

**(excluding power junky sellouts Hilary Clinton & Condoleeza Rice et al)**

**Women understand the power of an apology. If George Bush were truly committed to peace, he would apologize for deceiving us about weapons of mass destruction in Iraq and then ask the United Nations to forgive his arrogance in ignoring their concerns, charging ahead like a cowboy and goading the terrorists to "bring it on." Then true healing could begin.**

**To the warmongers who think that is a hopelessly naive and misguided strategy, I simply ask: And your way has worked how?**

**To all you men who insist there are plenty of men, too, who want peace, I say: You're right. We thank you, and our children thank you.**

**Connie Schultz**

**Source: "It's Time for Women to Stand Against War" by Connie Schultz, *Cleveland Plain Dealer***

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **I spoke to more than 500 women at a gathering on Cleveland's West Side. The empathy in their nodding faces was palpable as I described the mother who took her young daughter to a peace rally last March, not because she thought she could stop the war but because she wanted her daughter to know she tried.** **Connie Schultz** | | | **1** 1982: FDA warns against Tylenol after 7 die from use 2002: Northern Command (homeland defense) is operational | **2** 2002: West Nile detected in WA state 2002: Stockbroker asst testifies taking $ to be silent @ Stewart's insider trading | **3** 2002: Five slain in Maryland by a sniper 2002: Tens of 1000s protest France's intention to sell off state-owned companies | **4** 1937: Hugo Black, formerly of KKK, took seat on Supreme Court 2002: UN weapons inspector Blix agrees to hold off inspections |
| **5** 1966: TX Appeals Court voids conviction of Jack Ruby 2002: 5,000 in Portland OR protest against war in Iraq | **6** 1978: US Senate extends deadline for ERA 2002: Israeli helicopter fires missile into crowd in Gaza City killing ten, 65 wounded | **7** 2002: Bush claims Iraq stands alone as a threat to the US 2002: Sniper shoots 13-year-old boy outside his school in MD | **8** 1951: Cairo intention to eject British from Suez 1967: Che Guevara murdered by Bolivian Gov while in custody | **9** 2002: The Pentagon discloses exposing troops/thousands of civilians to biological and chemical agents during Cold War | **10** 2002: Congressional sources report the top Pentagon officials hounded CIA for revisions on whether Iraq has ties to al-Qaida | **11** 2002: Bush administration accused of undermining the creation of an independent commission to examine the 9-11 attacks |
| **12** 1958: Atlanta: Synagogue destroyed by bomb blast 2002: Drug czar attacks Nevada marijuana ballot measure | **13** 2002: Israel is accused of killing a militant Palestinian by rigging a public phone with explosives; Israel declines to comment | **14** 1953: Israeli army unit enraged by attack killing Israeli woman/two children, invade Jordan, 69 killed, mostly women and children | **15** 2002: US/British warplanes are repeatedly bombing Iraqi Air Base 2002: US presses Indonesia to crack down on Islamic militants | **16** 2002: Samish Indian Nation files suit against the BIA for clerical error that caused three decades of legal oblivion for the tribe | **17** 1787: Boston blacks petitions legislature for equal school facilities 1871: Grant declares martial law in 9 SC counties due to KKK | **18** 2002: AZ: 2 gunmen open fire on illegal immigrants killing 2 2002: Indonesia passes terrorism law giving gov extra powers |
| **19** 1954: Cairo: U.K. signs Suez treaty ceding canal to Egypt 1978: Carter orders production of elements for neutron bomb | **20** 2002: Powell says the US might not seek to remove Saddam Hussein if he abandons his weapons of mass destruction | **21** 1904: Panamanians clash with US marines during brief uprising 1970: Ireland: Bernadette Devlin is freed from prison | **22** 2002: Olympia City Council refuses to support Bread & Roses bid for $750,000 fed grant to expand soup kitchen, add advocacy center | **23** 2002: Former soldier from Ft Lewis arrested in WA DC sniper case 2002: Chechen rebels hold 100s of hostages in Moscow theater | **24** 1940: US 40-hour work week goes into effect 2001: Anthrax strain likely produced in US 2002: N Korea wants nonaggression treaty | **25** 2002: Paul Wellstone dies in plane crash 2002: Dozens reported dead after Russian special forces storm Moscow theater |
| **26** 2002: Anti-war protesters gather on Capitol Campus in Olympia 2002: Russia officials announce new count: 90-100 hostages dead | **27** 2002: Russian officials admit 116 of 118 hostages killed died from gas used by the special forces; they refused to identify the gas | **28** 2002: FBI reports an increase in crimes last year 2002: Israel claims it has arrested 175 would-be suicide bombers | **29** 2002: Appeals court in San Francisco rules gov can't revoke prescription doctor's drug licenses who recommend med. marijuana | **30** 1961: Stalin removed from Lenin's tomb 2002: Audubon list: one-fourth of N American bird species in jeopardy, 37 in WA | **31** 1952: Bolivia nationalizes 3 tin companies 2002: US syphilis rate rises 1st time in decade 2002: Judge bans sonar that harms whales | **This is no time for women to decide that what we say doesn't matter. It's up to us to make sure it does.** **Connie Schultz** |

# Oral History of Anna Schlecht, Part I: We Have to Become the Means On Our Own

**Megan Davis**

*Olympian Anna Schlecht has played many roles in the struggle for social justice, although she is probably best known for her persevering gay and lesbian civil rights work. This is an oral history based on excerpts of a '99 interview when, tape recorder rolling, she talked about the political work she does and the local activist community we share. This is the first part of a four-part series.*

[**Megan**] Where are you from and how long have you been in Olympia?

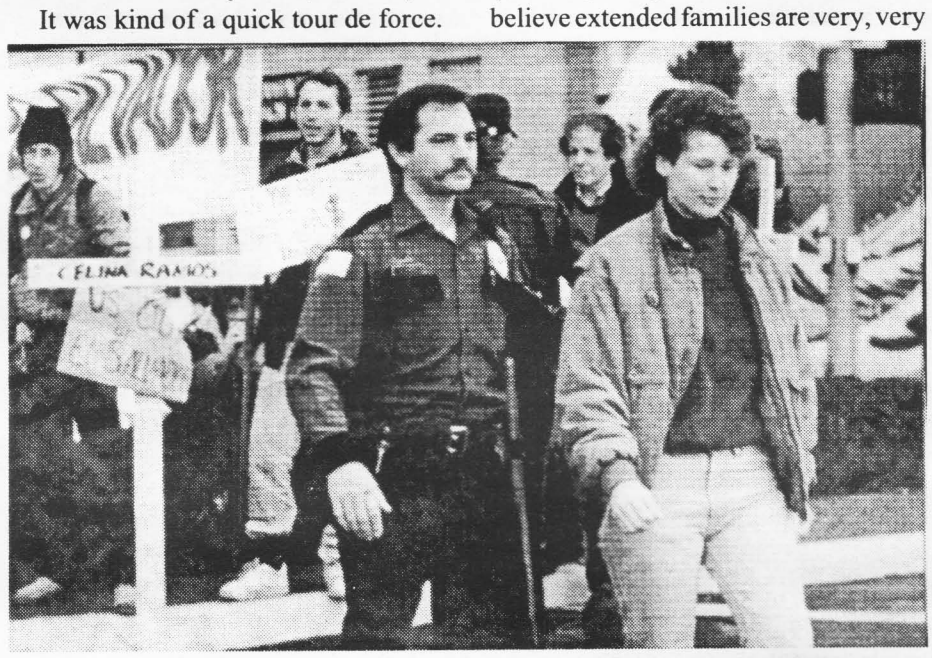
[**Anna**] I'm from Madison, Wisconsin. I moved out here in '76. When I moved out here, I really thought I had come to the end of the earth. The buses stopped at 5:30, parking tickets cost 25 cents, and it was a predominantly white area.

I came from one of the epicenters of the anti-Vietnam War movement, and although I was a teenager I spent a lot of time, not so much in an organizing, strategizing capacity, but in a "go to the riots and fight back" capacity. And I witnessed that transition from movements that would have literally hundreds of thousands of people… to where people started to come to terms with the fact that we're not going to have a revolution in this country, or not in the immediate future, and if we want to see things change then we have to become the means on our own. We have to take control of our lives, whether it's living collectively, establishing health collectives, doing anti-racism work, all of which I was a part of. That's what people did.

When I first moved out here, I got a job at the newly formed Olympia Food Coop. I was very interested in the [struggle to] take control over your food and make sure that you're not pumping money into agribusiness, and that you're acquiring food and sharing food in a more egalitarian way. In the '70s I was also a part of a local printing collective called Hard Rain Printing, that was really one of the epicenters for activism in Olympia. We were very involved in doing prisoner advocacy, Native American support. We did printing for just about everybody, and it was also part of a very strong lesbian community that I was a part of.

And another part of all that was the way that people did their work. It was not just, "Let's start groups and go out there and work on other people," but, "Let's look at how we live our own lives." People who came from money shared with those who didn't. I got my first pair of glasses from people who were willing to cough up the bucks to pay for the prescription. Which is a pretty incredible thing. We shared income, we fed ourselves, we took care of ourselves. We also all had guns, and we were still preparing and hoping that there would actually be a revolution. But that's dim to my mind, certainly.

It was kind of a quick tour de force.



Anna Schlecht being arrested by OPD in a protest from the 1980s.

Towards the end of the seventies, I think people who were interested in working collectively and looking at the ways that the political must be personal to have integrity went through enough experiences of exploring that, where they were ready to move on to new challenges, or they felt burned and sort of reverted to the more traditional American, "This is mine, that's yours. Good luck." *[laughs]* But it's something that I've retained ever since.

(**Megan**) So you moved to Olympia when you were a very young woman, and you've lived here ever since. Why did you choose to stay?

(**Anna**) Kids. I think that's kept me here more than anything.

(**Megan**) How many kids do you have?

(**Anna**) Well I actually never had one, but I've helped to raise upwards of twenty. My partner and I just recently had the last child move out and became childless, and it's a very disorienting kind of a situation. *[laughing]*

I've had a steady government job for I don't know how many years, in a housing program. And it's put me in a position of being able to be sort of the financial anchor for my household. Which is why I've helped to raise so many kids- not just emotionally helped to raise them, but financially too.

It's very hard in the white western model to raise children. To have this idea that you should have just two partners raising a child, whether they're straight people or whatever, I think is a tremendous amount of pressure. It's a real set-up for child abuse and domestic violence, and, if nothing else, emotional neglect and incredible burnout. I mean, not that I want to quote Hillary Clinton (who's quoting somebody else), but I believe extended families are very, very important. That's what I've been a part of, and it's been a wonderful experience. Very trying at times. Raising kids is never a dreamboat. But it's been pretty incredible.

It's a good fit – people who want to help to raise kids, and single parents. They need a little less time with their kids, and other people could use a little more time with kids… It's kind of like a river, and if you put yourself in it, the current will bring people to you. I don't think I ever had more than four in the house at once, but if I didn't value peace and quiet, I could have had upwards of ten at any given time. When you walk out on the street, and stand and watch people go by for a while, if you just look at the volume of people, there are some nuclear family units that are working and there's others that aren't, and there's just a heck of a lot of single parents out there.

And that's one of the things about activism… I think that as activists, we need to look at ourselves as a community more than just as an activity. And as a community, we need to support the fact that there are parents with kids who can't be going to all these damn meetings late at night, and can't be giving all their money to doing things. And a part of activism is doing childcare to support other people to be able to be activists.

There's a tendency I think for white activists to sort of idealize communities of color. But that is one real big difference between working in a white community and working in Hispanic or African-American or Native American communities. I don't think it's an exclusive thing, but in white political activism, it's always the adults, and somebody's watching the kids, or the people that don't have the means to have their kids watched can't be a part of the group. And that's not the way it is in communities of color. Kids come to things, and when there's bloody noses or poopie diapers things slow down until they get taken care of. To me, that's a very real way to work, because that's a society that I see. I want a world where, when there's bloody noses, you can slow down and make that kid happy again, and then go on with what you were doing.

*Coming next month… Part 2: Admiring Each Other*

***It's very hard in the white western model to raise children. To have this idea that you should have just two partners raising a child, whether they're straight people or whatever, I think is a tremendous amount of pressure. It's a real set-up for child abuse and domestic violence, and, if nothing else, emotional neglect and incredible burnout … I believe extended families are very, very important. That's what I've been a part of, and it's been a wonderful experience.***

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# Patriot Act Watch

## Howard Rosenfeld

Since the last WIP, more communities in America have passed anti-Patriot Act resolutions bringing the total to 174 nationwide, according to the ACLU.

Due to public organizing and education around the laws in the Patriot Act, U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft has also come under increasing fire.

*"A GOP-introduced bill to repeal the Patriot Act's "sneak and peek" authority, which allows searches without prior notification of the homeowner, passed in the House 309 to 118. A House bill to protect library and bookstore records has more than 130 sponsors, and a Senate version is likely to be introduced shortly. The ACLU and the Center for Constitutional Rights recently filed lawsuits challenging the constitutionality of parts of the act, and the February leak of a Justice Department draft of "Patriot Act II" led to such widespread criticism that Ashcroft has not yet dared introduce the bill."* The bill was actually introduced by Tom Feeney, see below. For full story, go here: http://www.alternet.org/story.html?StoryID=16734, 9/8/2003.

Ashcroft has also felt it necessary to defend the Patriot Act by touring the nation. Conspicuously, he is only speaking to law enforcement groups and all the talks are closed to the public. Some cities have seen protests around his talks, including a spirited one on September 9th in NYC which drew over 2,500 protesters and 1,200 demonstrators outside of Boston's Faneuil Hall the same day (BORDC).

More recently, Ashcroft proclaimed that the Patriot Act has never been used to search public library records or investigate the reading habits of Americans. However, under the Patriot Act, a library is under a gag order to reveal any information about an investigation taking place at their facility, so it's impossible to corroborate this claim.

***"... now Attorney General John Ashcroft says the FBI has no interest in Americans' reading records."***

In response to the Justice Department's pronouncement that it had never used section 215 of the Patriot Act, the American Library Association stated that this was a relief, considering some previous statements made by the DOJ, including:

* Last December, assistant attorney general Daniel Bryant said information had been sought from libraries on a voluntary basis and under traditional legal authorities, possibly including national security letters.
* In March 2003, Justice Department spokesperson Mark Corallo said libraries had become a logical target of surveillance.
* In May 2003, in testimony before members of Congress, assistant attorney general Viet Dinh said federal agents had visited about 50 libraries.

A Sept. 19th article in the Washington Times said that the Library Research Center at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign conducted a poll last year of more than 1,500 libraries. Sixty libraries said that federal agents had requested information on patrons under the Patriot Act, and nearly 15 percent of the librarians said they turned the information over without demanding a court order.

The American Library Association's President, Carla Hayden, stated her concerns in a recent article for Alternet.

*"And now Attorney General John Ashcroft says the FBI has no interest in Americans' reading records. While this may be true, librarians have a history with law enforcement dating back to the McCarthy era that gives us pause. For decades, and as late as the 1980s, the FBI's Library Awareness Program sought information on the reading habits of people from "hostile foreign countries," as well as U.S. citizens who held unpopular political views."* For the full story, go here: http://www.alternet.org/story.html?StoryID=16797

"On September 9, Rep. Tom Feeney introduced H.R. 3037 <http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query>, the Antiterrorism Tools Enhancement Act. If it is passed in its present form, the Act would authorize the administration to issue subpoenas without having to show probable cause. The Act requires only that the information sought by the administrative subpoenas is relevant to an ongoing investigation. It also contains a provision for the Attorney General to issue a gag order that forbids the person served the subpoena from disclosing its existence. President Bush has endorsed H.R. 3037 and two other new measures: denial of bail for anyone the Administration names a terrorism suspect; and, imposing the death penalty for so-called 'terrorist' crimes. The proposals for administrative subpoenas and denials of bail would further upset the balance of power by expanding the Administration's powers and reducing those of the judiciary and the grand jury. Imposing the death penalty would virtually guarantee that countries without a death penalty would refuse to extradite suspected terrorists to the United States." (BORDC)

For more information about the Patriot Act, visit the website of the ACLU and the Bill of Rights Defense Committee.

www.aclu.org
www.bordc.org

# Project Censored's Annual List

## The "Top Ten Censored Stories"

**1. The Neoconservative Plan for Global Dominance** Sources: The Sunday Herald (9/15/02), Harper's Magazine (10/02), Mother Jones (3/03), Pilger.com (12/12/02)Project Censored has decided that the incredible lack of public knowledge of the US plan for total global domination, represented by the Project for a New American Century (PNAC) represents the media's biggest failure over the past year. The PNAC plans advocated the attacks on Iraq and Afghanistan and other current foreign policy objectives, long before the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Chillingly, one document published by the PNAC in 2000 actually describes *the need for a "new Pearl Harbor"* to persuade the American public to accept the acts of war and aggression the administration wants to carry out. "But most people in the country are totally unaware that the PNAC exists," said Peter Phillips, a professor at Sonoma State and major domo of The Project Censored Project, "and that failure has aided and abetted this disaster in Iraq." According to Project Censored authors. "In the 1970s, the United States and the Middle East were embroiled in a tug-of-war over oil. At the time, the prospect of seizing control of Arab oil fields by force was considered out of line. Still, the idea of Middle East dominance was very attractive to a group of hardline Washington insiders that included Dick Cheney, Donald Rumsfeld, Paul Wolfowitz, Richard Perle, William Kristol and other operatives. During the Clinton years they were active in conservative think tanks like the PNAC. When Bush was elected they came roaring back into power. In an update for the Project Censored Web site, Mother Jones writer Robert Dreyfuss notes "There was very little examination in the media of the role of oil in American policy towards Iraq and the Persian Gulf, and what coverage did exist tended to pooh-pooh or debunk the idea that the war had anything to do with it."

**2. Homeland Security Threatens Civil Liberties** Sources: Global Outlook (Winter 2003), Rense.com (2-11-03 & Global Outlook, Volume 4), Center for Public Integrity (publicintegrity.org) Corporate Media partial coverage: Atlanta Journal-constitution (5/11/03/), The Tampa Tribune (3/28/03), Baltimore Sun (2/21/03)While the media did cover the Patriot Act, and the so-called Patriot Act II, which was leaked to the press in February 2003, there wasn't sufficient analysis of some of the truly dangerous and precedent-setting components of both acts. This goes especially for the shocking provision in Patriot II that would allow even US citizens to be treated as enemy combatants and held without counsel, simply on suspicion of connections to terrorism. "Under section 501 a US citizen engaging in lawful activity can be picked off the streets or from home and taken to a secret military tribunal with no access to or notification of a lawyer, the press or family." This would be considered justified if the agent 'inferred from the conduct' suspicious intention. Fortunately Patriot I is under major duress in Congress as both parties are supporting significant revisions. Yet, President Bush, realizing that he and his unpopular Attorney General John Ashcroft are losing popular support, is threatening a veto, and has aggressively gone on the offense in favor of the repugnant Patriot II. Let's see if the media has learned its lesson from Patriot I. Will it probe the new legislation much more thoroughly than the first round, which received inadequate analysis post 9/11?

**3. US Illegally Removes Pages from Iraq UN Report** Source: The Humanist and ArtVoice (March/April 2003), first covered by Amy Goodman on Democracy Now!Story three is the shockingly under-reported fact that the Bush administration removed a whopping 8,000 of 11,800 pages from the report the Iraqi government submitted to the UN Security Council and the International Atomic Energy Agency. The pages included details on how the US had actually supplied Iraq with chemical and biological weapons and the building blocks for weapons of mass destruction. The pages reportedly implicate not only Reagan and Bush administration officials but also major corporations including Bechtel, Eastman Kodak and Dupont and the US Departments of Energy and Agriculture. In comments to Project Censored, Michael Niman, author of one of the articles cited, noted that his article was based on secondary sources, mostly from the international press, since the topic received an almost complete blackout in the US press. Referring to his first Project Censored nomination in 1989, in which he went into the bush in Costa Rica, he said, "With such thorough self-censorship in the US press, reading the international press is now akin to going into the remote bush."

*Look for the rest of* ***Project Censored's*** *Top 10 Censored Stories of 2003 in next months issue of* ***Works In Progress.***

**4. Rumsfeld's Plan to Provoke Terrorists**
**5. The Effort to Make Unions Disappear**
**6. Closing Access to Information Technology**
**7. Treaty Busting By the United States**
**8. US/British Forces Continue Use of Depleted Uranium Weapons Despite Massive Evidence of Negative Health Effects**
**9. In Afghanistan: Poverty, Women's Rights and Civil Disruption Worse then Ever**
**10. Africa Faces New Threat of New Colonialism**

# Leavitt Nominated for EPA Chief: A Fox to Guard the Birds?

## Dave Zink

On August 11th, President Bush nominated Utah Governor Michael Leavitt to replace Christine Whitman as EPA director.

Whitman, a "moderate" Republican, came into office having demonstrated a concern for the environment. She was often at odds with the White House over environmental policy, starting with Bush's abrupt decision to unilaterally declare the Kyoto Protocol to prevent global warming "dead". The Bush Administration, prone to making shady deals at the expense of a safe and healthy environment, routinely undermined Whitman. She was never given the power to do the job of cracking down on polluters and protecting our families and communities, and resigned out of frustration in May of this year.

Like his predecessor, Leavitt is in the moderate wing of the GOP. Looking over the Governor's website, it appears that Leavitt's heart is in the right place. He appears to be concerned about the environment. The site is downright soggy with platitudes about the need for balance and stewardship of our land, air, and water. Unfortunately, his head seems to be lost somewhere in Market Solutions La-La Land. Leavitt, like many in the GOP, would like you to believe that the 'invisible hand' of the Market will solve most of our problems if government just keeps its hands off.

Given his pro-market bias, its no surprise that environmental enforcement in Utah is weak under Governor Leavitt's Administration. One of Leavitt's recurring themes is that we need to shift power from the federal government down to lower levels—state, county, and municipal governments—and ease the regulatory burden on the people (read "business").

At first glance, that may sound good. Indeed, government should be accessible to the people. The trouble is that many corporations have become more powerful than the government entities designed to regulate them. How can a county or municipal government realistically hope to stand up to a trans-national corporation that is ready to bring the full force of the WTO and NAFTA against it?

***"Leavitt, like many in the GOP, would like you to believe that the 'invisible hand' of the Market will solve most of our problems if government just keeps its hands off"***

"Market-based solutions" are what got us into trouble with the environment to begin with. That's why fisheries are collapsing and whales are teetering on the edge of extinction. The free market takes profit as the top priority and our environment as a free dump for pollution. Environmental costs aren't factored in. Natural resources are looted at the expense of the common good. That's why government has to step in. For many things, such as environmental health, medical care, and auto insurance, the free-market is a lousy regulator. A few people can get rich, at the cost of long-term damage.

The market approach is a dog that can come back and bite you, as it did in Utah. Twice a year, companies that sell hiking, camping, and other equipment to outdoor enthusiasts and retailers gather at Salt Lake City's Salt Palace for a huge bazaar called the Outdoor Retailer Show. Each show attracts between 15,000 and 18,000 people, and at least $24 million in "direct visitor spending" to the city. The Outdoor Industry Association threatens to find another location for their gathering unless Leavitt backs away from his plan to weaken wilderness protection.

On his website, you'll see some unsubstantiated boogey-man stories about the evils of environmental enforcement. One example: Leavitt belittles the importance of the Endangered Species Act by posing a hypothetical situation of an un-named small town that needs to improve their water system, is "forced to pay an additional $10 million dollars because the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service thinks that a small fish species is endangered." What Leavitt doesn't explain is how we can utilize free market approaches to save a species from going extinct. Extinction is pretty serious business: we're talking about gone forever.

Philip E. Clapp, head of the National Environmental Trust, said, "I can't think of too many governors more hostile to government regulations than Mike Leavitt."

The Sierra Club is opposed to the nomination of Leavitt. In an August 11th press release, the group says "Governor Mike Leavitt's environmental track record includes working behind closed doors with Interior Secretary Gale Norton to open up millions of acres of Utah's wildlands to development and polluting industries.

Lawson Legate is the southwest regional director for the Sierra Club who lives in Salt Lake City. He told Amy Goodman on Pacifica Radio's ***Democracy Now*** program, "Governor Leavitt has doggedly persisted in promoting the notorious Legacy Highway, which would go through the Great Salt Lake wetlands—a significant shore bird reserve. We don't need this freeway. . . We're sprawling, and this would gobble up some of the best remaining farm land that we have in Utah."

Senator Joe Lieberman (D-Conn.), a member of the panel that will question the nominee, says that "President Bush has the worst environmental record in history" and that "The American people deserve to know whether Governor Leavitt shares the same disregard for clean air, clean water, land conservation, and global warming as the President."

If Leavitt is confirmed as EPA director, the question then becomes: How long will he last if he sticks up for the environment? If he's a reactionary disguised as a moderate, then he will fit in comfortably with the Bush league in his tenure at the EPA. This will be another test case for an administration that, so far, is failing on both the environmental and labor fronts.

# Waking Nightmares

## Sky

I have waking nightmares walking these peaceful streets at noon. Specters of war-torn ghosts haunt my peripheral vision, nursing sore souls and malnourished spirits. I can smell depleted uranium in our air even though I don't know what depleted uranium smells like, much less why we coat the army's bullets in the stuff. Fear and paranoia in the eyes of those I call others shakes me to my bones, mistrust stinking of a homogenized sour milk education and unfounded faith in a media which fails to serve a two course meal to whet the appetites of thinkers. We no longer live in a democratic-republic, we live in a fascist corporate regime whose iron fist seeks to crush individuality and privacy and nature in one fell swoop. Take the money and run.

***We are entering an era of socio-economic upheaval, a period where we will be forced to change our ways, for better or for worse.***

Hope is such a short word, as words go. But sometimes in brevity we find unimaginable depths of inspiration with which to fashion a fervent desire for societal transformation. And when we begin to acknowledge suffering and seek to alleviate that anguish of death and hunger and occupation and war and deforestation and poverty, that is when we begin to see clearly, see that violence can only beget more violence. "Let he who is without sin among you cast the first stone." Sound familiar? When we seek to educate those around us we create an atmosphere where alternative solutions and methods are nurtured instead of brushed aside by an overly conformist frightened rhetoric. No one wins at war, so why don't we try something different?

***Hope is such a short word, as words go. But sometimes in brevity we find unimaginable depths of inspiration with which to fashion a fervent desire for societal transformation.***

I try to imagine cancer rates increasing ten-fold because of a radio-active dust scattered across my homeland by a country much more rich and prosperous and swell-headed than my own. I try to imagine little legless children and walls pock-marked with bullet holes and machine gun fire lulling me to sleep. I try to imagine placing myself in front of a tank or an american-made bulldozer with the goal of saving someone's home and garden and livelihood. I try to imagine 500,000 dead children in the Middle East. I try to picture the bloody, muddy streets of Rafah, the crumbling architecture ground down by shells aimed at innocent civilians. I try to imagine these things because some of my friends are out there protecting people they barely know because no one else will take the risk, because no one else cares, because half the world still doesn't know it's happening. Take everything your government tells you with a grain or two of salt. You are being lied to.

I watch these events unfold through middle-class lenses and second-hand stories, tucked away in the Pacific Northwest where we have trees and mostly clean water and electricity and jobs and money and some tiny shred of happiness and hope left. I watch these events unfold themselves upon our world and I cannot help but cry and cringe and wail some sort of song out upon a society willing to stand by while these atrocities take place in Burma, in Afghanistan, in Iraq, Colombia, Bolivia, Israel, Palestine, in the alleyways and ghettos of our own cities, behind our backs. But there comes a time when backs find their way to walls and nothing can slip in behind them because someone sees it happen and takes a picture or writes a story or a song or a poem or tells a tale to a group of people.

We are entering an era of socio-economic upheaval, a period where we will be forced to change our ways, for better or for worse. This time will come to question our religion, our morality, our dignity, our pocketbooks, our frivolous, drunken ways. This time is coming, has come, is now upon us... and we must act, and act fast. We must stop confusing activism with anarchy, passivity with peace, patriotism with acquiescence, and oil with intuition. If someone paid you lots of money and told you it was right and just, would you shoot an unarmed child in the head? We have to ask ourselves some serious questions.

Economic sanctions are weapons of mass destruction more terrible than any nuclear bomb. Depleted uranium pollutes the earth for 4,500 million years and causes cancer, psychotic behavior, and memory loss. War costs taxpayers money and makes the wealthy wealthier. Food should be good for you to eat. Water should be clean. We have violated the Geneva Convention countless times since 1991, bombing water treatment plants and waste storage facilities and wells and hospitals. The United States was founded because people didn't want to be governed by another nation that exercised its evil will upon them through taxation and force. Where do you see this going?

Numbers of suicide bombers are not going to decrease as long as we are occupying someone's homeland illegally, immorally and unjustly, and funding their enemy to exact horrific carnage upon their populace and steal their land and homes away from them. It just doesn't make sense. Please, talk to the people you know. That's all I ask, is that we talk to each other. Homes used to be social centers, not hiding spots. Community used to mean kinship. Don't let outsiders pull your strings. It's not too reassuring when you realize that Fort Lewis is over three times larger than our biggest national park. Go buy petroleum products and watch Fox News. Some of us are busy.

*(No Confidence continued)*

the underlying question of who they would represent: the rich or the poor. The incumbents of course have had more hands-on experience in dealing with the city's role in making policies that affect the class divide and that was used above in championing the incumbents. One would think it would be to the challenger's benefit to have some thought-out plans and reasons for running in direct position to the tenures of their opponents. But that is not what we get. They refused or were unable to talk in specifics, and instead gave us an earfull of consultant-generated drivel about their "leadership qualities" which comes up very short in the face of the incumbents records. Combining this vagueness with their zero track record to indicate they would have done or will do anything differently, what are we to make of the challengers?

We got unimpressive and opportunistic challengers whose plan to "save" Olympia isn't distinguishable from the incumbents. In fact, the challengers had nothing bad to say about their opponents. Sure, Miller and Kent may be nice people with politics that may even be liberal, but they are both untested and unrevealing, and don't even qualify as substitutes for what we already know we have. Miller and Kent both cited business experience as their primary qualification for the council positions, but that's no reason in and of itself to support them.

*(continued page 8)*

# Dave Kent and TJ Johnson discuss the conference center

## Sandy Mayes

In this year's local city council race, the Conference Center controversy has been a defining issue. On August 12, 2003, Senior Services of South Sound sponsored a forum for local candidates in the primary election. Dave Kent and TJ Johnson were asked about their views on the subject. [The other candidates were not asked this question.]

Dennis Mahar served as moderator.

***Dennis***: *What is your position on the Conference Center and why?*

***TJ***: I've knocked on a lot of doors in the last six months and it's far and away the biggest issue people are talking to me about. And the general comment that I hear from people is, "Why won't they let us vote on it?" And, you know,

***"I think elected officials are elected to make decisions … They've listened to the consultants and they've paid their dues" (Dave Kent)***

I share that feeling. This is a proposal to spend at least $15 million in public money up front and to spend $650,000 every year for the next twenty years to manage this conference center. This is in my mind a risky venture. And I think testament to that fact is that the public sector has been asked to take it on and the private sector and the market has not seen a need [nor are they] willing to fund it.

My concern is not that I don't want a conference center. I think if a private developer wanted to build a conference center in our community in the right location, I'm all for it. Let's work with them to make it happen. But if we're talking about using public money, what we're talking about is spending it on a conference center and not spending it on a whole range of other community needs like parks, libraries, swimming pools, senior programs and other things.

***"Given the debate in the community around this issue, I think we ought to ask the community if they're behind this project; put it up for a public vote", (TJ Johnson)***

So given the debate in the community around this issue, I think we ought to ask the community if they're behind this project; put it up for a public vote. And if the community says yes, let's all get behind it and let's make it happen and build the best conference center in the northwest. And if the community says no, let's move on and find other ways to make investments in our community that are really going to benefit, both today and in the long term.

***Dave***: I'm going to come across a little different on that issue. Number one, I really like the concept of the conference center. I believe that it can be a great shot in the arm for our downtown area and I believe that it can be a revenue source. I believe that there will be not only jobs created but I think there will be spin-off jobs and spin-off economy for our downtown area. And ultimately, when we have jobs and more businesses, then that means more revenue. And then we can fund some of those things that you all want and we all want. So, I see it as a good thing.

I see some problems, of course. And the problems that I see are, number one, parking. And parking isn't just related to the conference center. It's related to what you guys are trying to do when you park down here now. Parking is an issue that's not been resolved. And neither has the maintenance and operations,

*(continued page 9)*

# Civil & Environmental Rights Group Endorsements

| POSITION / CANDIDATE | Green Party of South Puget Sound | TEAL & WCV (Thurston Environmental Action League *and* WA Conservation Voters) | Freedom Vote (based *exclusively* on Gay/Lesbian/ Bi/ Trans civil rights issues) |
|---|---|---|---|
| | ---- ENDORSING GROUP ---- | | |
| **Olympia Mayor** | | | |
| Mark Foutch | | **Endorsed** | ***Strongly* endorsed** |
| Sarah Jewett | | | **Endorsed** |
| **Olympia Council, Pos. 2** | | | |
| Laura Ware | **Endorsed** | **Endorsed** | ***Strongly* endorsed** |
| Sandra Miller | | | *Strongly* endorsed |
| **Olympia Council, Pos. 3** | | | |
| TJ Johnson | **Endorsed** | **Endorsed** | ***Strongly* endorsed** |
| Dave Kent | | | Endorsed |
| **Port of Olympia** | | | |
| Ken Filak | **Endorsed** | | |
| Bob Van Schoorl | | Endorsed | *Strongly* endorsed |

# Olympia City Council Position 2:

## Laura Ware

### Bio

Ware, the encumbant, has served on the city council for eight years. She and her husband Greg have lived in Olympia for seventeen years. When she first ran for the council, Laura was a volunteer in her children's pre-school and elementary school, was secretary of her neighborhood association, an active member of the Thurston County Democrats and was also working part-time in the overnor's office. She currently serves on several committees and boards including the Animal Service Board and Capitol Lake Committee. Laura is very interested in the city budget, chairing the council's budget subcommittee and the Human Services Review Board.

### Top donors

* Green Party of South Puget Sound ($100)
* Glen Blackmon ($100)
* Matthew Green ($100)
* Joan Hart ($100)
* Robert McIntosh ($100)
* Evalyn Poff ($100)
* Diane Rudeen ($100)

### Endorsements

* Freedom Vote - Strongly Endorsed
* Green Party of South Puget Sound
* Sierra Club
* Thurston County Environmental Action League (TEAL)
* Thurston County Young Democrats
* Chair of State Democrats Paul Berendt
* Superintendent of Public Instruction Terry Bergeson
* Former Port Commissioner Sam Bradley
* Lacey City Council Virgill Clarkson
* Mayor Pro Tem City of Olympia Mark Foutch
* Olympia Council Member Matthew Green
* Former Olympia Council Member TJ Johnson
* Former Tumwater Council Member Walt Jorgensen
* Former Governor Mike Lowry
* Former Chair Thurston County Democrats Dave Kempher
* Olympia School Board Member Russ Lehman
* Current Principal Roosevelt Elementary Michael McDonald
* Past Principal Roosevelt Elementary Britt Nederhood
* Olympia Council Member Curt Pavola
* State Representative Sandra Romero
* Former Congresswoman Jolene Unsoeld
* Tumwater City Council Member Karen Valenzuela

### Position on the Conference Center

Ware is quoted in the Olympian, saying, "It's not affordable as it stands, so I'm against it. … I would not be opposed to a public vote. We have a very educated public. If we gave them all the facts, they are more than capable of telling us what they want."

## Sandra Miller

### Bio

Miller, a longtime Olympia resident, is Vice President of Intercontinental Investments, Inc, the parent company of Governor House Ramada Inn in downtown Olympia. She is married to Gregory A Miller who owns Bartel's Men's Shop on Capitol Way.

### Top Donors

* Olympia Police Guild ($1,000)
* Mike J Williams and Brenda B Williams (The Williams Group Ad Agency Member of the EDC and Thurston Chamber: $520)
* Thurston Affordable Housing Council (Olympia Master Builders: $500)
* Wa. Association of Realtors ($500)
* Evergreen Olympic Properties, Inc. (Ron Rants, major developer behind the proposed conference center: $250)
* Dennis Matson (Executive Director Thurston County Economic Development Council – EDC-: $250)

### Position on the Conference Center

At recent public forums, Miller has been somewhat cagey about her position on the controversial conference center project. According to the Olympian (9/12/03) she acknowledges that the city should have "sought more public input" earlier on in the process, but "Miller sees the project as an investment opportunity that benefits downtown."

Many of her primary supporters and donors are strong open advocates of the project. According to the Olympian, supporters at her "kickoff" breakfast included:

*-Rep. Gary Alexander, R-Thurston County, who represents the 20th District. Alexander pushed for legislation to create the public facilities district and has been a vocal supporter for a conference center.*

*-David Schaffert, president of the Thurston County Chamber of Commerce, another group advocating for the conference center.*

*-Pat Rants, vice president of the Rants Group and son of Ron Rants, who has backed a conference center for years.*

*-Dennis Matson, executive director of the Economic Development Council, another group pushing for the downtown project.*

*-Tom Iovanne, executive director of the Washington Center and board member of the Visitors and Convention Bureau. The VCB has taken a strong stance in favor of the downtown project.*

*(No Confidence, continued)*

A hint of what is dangerous about Miller and Kent is their friends who have supported them. Their friends and supporters are the rich of Olympia. In fact, Kent lists the entire Chamber of Commerce in his election records. Miller has a history of playing favorites as she is currently embroiled in the Olympia's Lodging Tax Advisory Committee scandal which is being investigated for siphoning and doling out city funds to her 'friends' and not to other worthy groups. The Olympia Police Guild made up their mind to support Miller and Kent to the tune of $1,000 each without even interviewing any of the candidates. Another telling sign (no pun intended) of who represents whose interests is seen where candidate campaign signs are. Many of Miller's and Kent's campaign signs appear on streets, Realtor offices and business windows while Ware's and Johnson's seem to be concentrated in the yards and windows of actual people. The challengers don't see the telling irony of having their names next to signs advertising "FOR SALE".

But why would a mother with a 20-month old baby and a sometimes-failed businessman be jumping into this race, seemingly without a plan. Miller and Kent deny running on the "Conference Center" ticket, yet offer nothing of substance in their campaigns. In fact, the conference center is one of the only distinguishing aspects to these races. The incumbents want to let the public vote on it, while the challengers oppose a public vote believing the decision is the council's responsibility. This is where Miller and Kent's tailored drivel about 'leadership' is important to remember: "you can trust us to make the right decision." But they don't talk or seem to care about other issues, except they are certain that they don't want us to decide about the conference center! Miller and Kent are one-issue candidates who want to keep the plan for the conference center on track.

Miller and Kent would better serve the populous by running in a partisan race to be more respectful of the voters. They are essentially Republicans and are sworn to serve the rich. They were the only two in the room at the CLIP Forum who did not applaud when a comment was made of getting rid of GW Bush as a step toward making Olympia better. They have a plan for Olympia, but they won't share it with us. They just want us to trust their 'leadership'. This is text-book Republican drivel: Nixon ran his second presidential bid on the promise that he had a plan for getting us out of Vietnam and voters took him at his word. He didn't have a plan (or a clue) and ended up escalating and expanding the war before he had to resign. How far in will Miller and Kent take us? Would you buy a used car from Miller or Kent? Then why trust them with the future of Olympia? Vote for Ware and Johnson.

# Choosing Peace

Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation
5015 15th Ave SE
Lacey, Washington 98503
(360)491-9093
www. OlyFOR.org

A series for the whole community

Calender for October - November 2003 and Peace Resource Guide

## 2003 "Choosing Peace" Series Offers Abundant Activities for the Whole Community

It's an abundance of riches! During September dozens of peace-related opportunities were offered in the greater Olympia area, and the flood of activities continues through October and November. **"Choosing Peace: A Series for the Whole Community"** rushes onward with a great number and variety of activities.

The "Choosing Peace" series is a conscious and positive way to recognize the second anniversary of September 11 with alternative, peaceful steps to break the cycle of violence and create a nonviolent culture with true peace and social justice.

After September 11, 2001, people were feeling various mixes of emotions. The next spring some local folks started planning some peaceful ways to observe September 11's first anniversary. More and more individuals and organizations connected with this effort, which grew into **"Choosing Peace: A Series for the Whole Community."** More than 80 events and activities from late August to early November 2002 helped people come together in all sorts of ways to support peace and to strengthen our wonderful local community.

**Now in the fall of 2003 - after another year of more wars and global turmoil - the need is even greater.** Our nation is divided about what to do. Now is a good time to thoughtfully reflect on the recent past and choose a better future. Now is a good time for all kinds of people to come together in all kinds of settings to explore how to create peace. **The 2003 Choosing Peace series is helping our community come together to work for peaceful and nonviolent solutions for international, local and personal conflicts.** The 2003 series includes speakers, music, films, children's activities, religious observances, radio and TV programs, vigils, discussions, workshops, community-building activities, and training to help us practice nonviolence in our daily lives.

**Look for these features in this publication:**

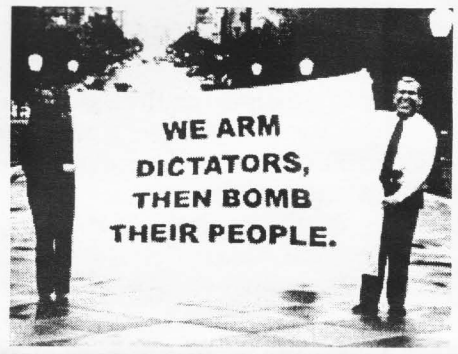
Use the robust list of local and national organizations, periodicals, and websites to help keep you informed and active.

A calendar lists dozens of meaningful activities day by day from now through November. Additional activities are continually being planned and updated, so for the latest information please check various local information sources, including the blue "Choosing Peace" tab on the Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation's website www.olyfor.org.

The Choosing Peace series is produced by volunteers, but we are incurring about one thousand dollars of expenses for printing and postage, so we hope you will contribute to cover these costs. A donation coupon on this page provides information. Thank you!

The cycles of violence and systemic injustices have thrown the world into turmoil. We're all experiencing various kinds of chaos and trauma. During such difficult times, it is especially important to make choices that reflect our best thinking and our deepest values and yearnings.

**We invite you to join with other folks in choosing peace!**




## Organizations and Information Sources for Peace, Human Rights, and Civil Society

**AlterNet** is a project of the Independent Media Institute, a nonprofit organization dedicated to strengthening and supporting independent and alternative journalism. Since 1998 AlterNet's online magazine has provided a mix of news, opinion and investigative journalism on subjects ranging from the environment, the drug war, technology and cultural trends to policy debate, sexual politics and health issues. Alternet's article database includes more than 7,000 stories from more than 200 sources. www.alternet.org

**American Civil Liberties Union** protects people's constitutional rights. It uses court cases, legislative work, grassroots education and mobilization, and other legal methods. ACLU organizes activities at national, state and local levels. The ACLU of Washington at 705 Second Avenue, Suite 300, Seattle, WA 98104 (206) 624-2184 www.aclu-wa.org Contact Thurston County's ACLU at (360) 456-7180 info@aclu-thurston.org

**Amnesty International** works worldwide to protect human rights. For more than 40 years AI has developed a positive reputation for its conscientious work for individual cases. Now AI is increasing its efforts to work on systemic issues, such as women's rights, the death penalty, and protecting the environments of endangered populations. www.amnesty.org Local contact: (360) 534-9254

**American Friends Service Committee** is a Quaker-based organization that has worked since 1917 on a tremendous number of peace and justice issues and activities around the world and within the US. High priority concerns include Iraq, the Middle East, and other areas of conflict; immigrant rights; reducing the militarization of youth and schools; criminal justice and stopping the death penalty; and various human rights and economic justice issues. AFSC, 1501 Cherry St., Philadelphia, PA 19102 (215) 241-7170 www.afsc.org

**Bring Them Home Now!** is a campaign of military families, veterans, active duty personnel, reservists and others opposed to the ongoing war in Iraq. It was galvanized to action by George W. Bush's inane and reckless challenge to armed Iraqis resisting occupation to "Bring 'em on!" www.bringthemhomenow.org

**Center for Voting and Democracy** works for systemic changes in our electoral processes to allow for more vibrant democracy. The nonpartisan CVD is dedicated to fair elections where every vote counts and all voters are represented. Proportional representation and instant run-off voting (IRV) are two high priorities. 301-270-4616 www.fairvote.org

**Climate Solutions** works to stop global warming as soon as possible by publicizing information and helping the Northwest become a world leader in practical and profitable solutions. Climate Solutions helps Northwest families, communities, governments and industries explore the practical benefits of taking actions here and now. (360) 352-1763 www.climatesolutions.org

**Common Dreams** is a website that posts many articles on peace and progressive political issues every day and keeps them available for awhile. These provide solid information and fresh perspectives not available in mainstream news media. Highly recommended! www.commondreams.org

**CounterPunch** is a bi-weekly muckraking newsletter edited by Alexander Cockburn and Jeffrey St. Clair. For six years their professional journalists have focused on stories that the corporate press never prints. They print on paper for subscribers and also produce an electronic version. Call toll-free 1-800-840 3683 or write CounterPunch, PO BOX 228, Petrolia, CA 95558 or visit www.counterpunch.org

**Democracy Now!** is a national, daily, independent, award-winning news program hosted by award-winning journalists Amy Goodman and Juan Gonzalez. Democracy Now! airs

## Choosing Peace Calendar

October-November 2003

*All of these events are in Olympia unless stated otherwise. All of these phone numbers are in area code (360) unless stated otherwise.*

**September through November: Peace Book Display** Throughout the Choosing Peace season a variety of books related to peace will be displayed at Orca Books, a locally owned bookstore at 509 4th Ave E. Info: 352-0123

**Every Wednesday : Peace Vigil** Every Wednesday since March 5, 1980, people have gathered from 12 noon to 1 p.m. in the NW corner of Sylvester Park for a simple, friendly vigil for peace. We hold signs for motorists and pedestrians to read. Sometimes people stop and talk with us. We are friendly whether the passersby agree or disagree. The vigil supports peace, social justice and nonviolence. It does not take partisan or electoral positions.

The Pentagon works week after week, year after year, to promote military "solutions" to problems. The peace movement must persist equally if we are to change our nation's foreign policy to one of peace. Our peace vigil's persistence every Wednesday for 23 ½ years is a metaphor for the work we must do relentlessly over the long haul. We receive a great many signs of support from pedestrians and motorists. People tell us how much they appreciate seeing us faithfully vigiling regardless of the political climate or the weather. Over the years this vigil has helped us meet a tremendous number of people and include them in additional ways to work for peace. Every Wednesday from 12 noon to 1p.m. in the NW corner of Sylvester Park, Capitol & Legion. Sponsor: Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation. Info: Glen Anderson 491-9093

**Every Friday : Peace Vigil** Every Friday for several years, people have gathered near the southern end of Percival Landing near the corner of Water Street and 4th Avenue for a simple, friendly vigil for peace. Several years ago when the vigil began, we focused on peace with Iraq, with an emphasis on ending economic sanctions. After September 11, 2001, the theme expanded to a broader plea for peace and nonviolence. The vigil does not take partisan or electoral positions. We provide a large variety of signs for participants to hold. We say hello to passing motorists and pedestrians. Sometimes pedestrians stop and talk with us. We are friendly whether people agree or disagree. We receive a great many signs of support from pedestrians and motorists alike – and from all demographic groups. 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. through late October, and 4:30 to 5:30 after Daylight Savings Time ends. Sponsor: Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation. Info: Glen Anderson 491-9093

**Every Friday : Peace Vigil by Women in Black** Women are invited to wear black and vigil silently for peace. Signs will be provided, or feel free to bring your own. "Women in Black" is a loose network of women worldwide committed to peace with justice and actively opposed to war and violence since 1988. 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Percival Landing along Water Street between State and 4th. Info: Julie 705-2669 jmallessio@yahoo.com

## October

**October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month** Contact SafePlace for local information. Office 786-8754 24-hour crisis line 754-6300 www.safeplaceolympia.org

**Every Sunday in October: Four Sisters for Peace** Every Sunday evening at 10:00 p.m. on TCTV you can watch this documentary about peace and justice as seen through the actions of four sisters who also became Catholic nuns. The film was created by a class of sixth to eighth grade students in Minneapolis working with their teacher and a media artist. Early footage shows young women romping playfully in spite of the encumbrances of the traditional nuns? habits. Later we see four gray-haired ladies in T-shirts. This is part of the Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation's "In Search of the Big Picture" series of documentaries on TCTV (channel 22 or 29, depending on your neighborhood). Info: Carol 866-7645 carolburns@olywa.net

**Every Monday & Every Thursday in October: "Choosing Peace"** The Olympia FOR is devoting its October 2003 TCTV program to the process of deliberately, intentionally choosing peace. We?ll draw from the information and insights presented in Dangerous Peace-making, the new book by Helena Meyer-Knapp, Ph.D. Helena will be one guest on this TV program. The other guest is Diana Cushing,

*(continued on back page)*

*Thanks to **Works in Progress** for including this special supplement in their publication. If you received this page separately, you might want to look for **Works in Progress**, a local monthly newspaper with lively articles and information you won't see in the mainstream press. You may find free copies at many locations in greater Olympia, or you may subscribe for $35/year ($15 low-income).* WIP PO Box 295 Olympia WA 98507 wip@olywa.net

The Choosing Peace series is costing approximately one thousand dollars for printing and postage. We invite you to support this series by a voluntary donation. (Tax-deductibility information is at the bottom of this coupon.)

Yes, I am happy to enclose a contribution of: [ ]$50 [ ]$20 [ ]Other: $_____

Print Name:.....

Address:.....

City:.....State:..... Zip:.....

Phone:.....E-mail:.....

Please make check payable to Olympia FOR, earmark the lower left corner Choosing Peace, and mail to Olympia FOR, PO Box 7273, Olympia WA 98507-7273 Thank you!

*(Continued from previous page)*

Ph.D., a local psychologist who will talk about the process of empowering ourselves and actually choosing.

The public typically feels that decisions of war and peace are out of their hands. We are more likely to achieve peace if the public feels that it can indeed choose peace. Helena Meyer-Knapp?s book deals with the processes that sustain wars and the opportunities, processes and risks that political and other leaders experience when they decide to stop fighting. Ultimately, the leaders make peace only when they choose to do so. When the public realizes that war and peace are actual choices -not historical inevitabilities that are beyond our control - the public will be more likely to demand that our leaders stop making war and start making peace. The public can help cultivate political climates and opportunities that can make peace more likely.

This airs at 1:30 p.m. Mondays and 9 p.m. Thursdays on Thurston Community Television, channel 22 or 29, depending on viewer location in Thurston County. Sponsor: Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation. Info: Glen Anderson 491-9093 glen@olywa.net

# Choosing Peace Calendar

October - November 2003

**Wed Oct 1 : ACLU of Thurston County** meets at 7:00 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month at the Olympia Center, 222 N Columbia. Info: Bruce DeLoria 456-7180 info@aclu-thurston.org

**Wed Oct 1 : Discovering a Sense of Place** Consider the potential benefits of knowing and protecting our particular place with respect to its geography, climate, animals and plants. Consider our bioregion and community with empowerment. Discussion group for 6-10 persons will meet at 7:00 p.m. weekly for slightly more than an hour for 8 sessions. Reading materials will be available for $18. Info & registration: 753-0196

**Thurs Oct 2 : A Birthday Party for Gandhi** Come celebrate the birthday of Mohandas Gandhi, a man who dedicated his life to nonviolent action and change. Hear Bernie Meyer, a long-time activist and scholar of nonviolence, portray Gandhi and discuss Gandhi's insights. Learn how to spin a small amount of fiber, as Gandhi taught his followers to spin to reduce their dependency on British goods. Enjoy refreshments and socializing. 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the meeting room at Olympia Timberland Library, 8th Ave between Franklin and Adams. Sponsor: Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation. Info: Kristen Dahle 357-3553 kjdahle@comcast.net

**Thurs Oct 2 : World Peace Prayer Meeting** This occurs on the first Thursday evening of each month at 7:00 p.m. at Lacey Community Center, 6729 Pacific Ave SE, Lacey. Sponsor: SGI-USA-Olympia chapter. (Sokagakkai International is a lay organization of Nichiren Buddhism). Info: Scott or Fil Lipsker 493-2431 flipsker36@hotmail.com scottlip49@hotmail.com

**Thurs Oct 2 : Conversation Café** Here is an opportunity to discuss anything from local activism to general philosophies of war and peace, pride and shame, religion and the world, etc. Tonight's conversation is part of a series happening over tea every other Thursday at various locations and hosted by various groups. 7:00 p.m. at Media Island International, 816 Adams SE. Sponsor: Media Island International. Info: Warren 352-8526 or Maya 402-6301

**Thurs Oct. 2 : Dances of Universal Peace** Each dance, song and language is taught as we go. No musical or dance experience required, and everyone is welcome. Participation, not presentation, is the focus. Movements and songs include themes of peace (both inner and outer) and healing (earth, individuals and global family). Dancers focus on peace and harmony and create a sense of solidarity and community while celebrating the underlying unity of all the spiritual traditions of earth. This series takes place from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month, except during summer, at Unity Church, 1335 Fern St SW. Info: Safiya Crane 943-2623.

**Fri Oct 3: Elementary School Peace Art** As part of Arts Walk, elementary school students will display artwork with a peace theme in the window of a downtown spice shop, Buck's Fifth Avenue. The art was produced by students in Kristen Dahle's 5th grade class at Olympic View Elementary School. This project was inspired by the United Nations' International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Nonviolence for the Children of the World. See the window of Buck's Fifth Avenue, 209 5th Ave SE. Sponsor: Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation. Info: Kristen Dahle 357-3553 kjdahle@comcast.net

**Fri Oct 3: Keep Space for Peace** As part of Arts Walk, the Carlysle Group jazz fusion band collaborates with many dancers to present dances, songs, poems and improvisations on themes of justice and peace. 8:30 p.m., Urban Onion, 116 Legion Way SE. Info: Holly Gwinn Graham 866-0257

**Sat Oct 4: Domestic Violence: Equipping Faith Communities To Respond** Faith communities are often the first source of help sought by families facing domestic violence. Preparation can help you to provide meaningful assistance, promote safety in a crisis and reduce the chance of adverse liability. Today's training can equip key people in faith communities to recognize and respond appropriately and effectively to domestic violence. This is especially appropriate for faith community leaders, including rabbis, pastors, teachers, leaders of men's, women's and youth groups, staff of faith-based organizations, as well as congregation members, staff, counselors and social service providers. 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at St. Placid Priory, 500 College Street NE, Lacey. (From Martin Way go north on College Street, look for sign on the right, and drive downhill on the long driveway.) Sponsored by Associated Ministries of Thurston County, Olympia Union Gospel Mission and Operation Teen Esteem. Call Associated Ministries at 357-7224 for more information or to register.

**Sat Oct 4: Israeli and Palestinian Bereaved Families for Peace** Hear about the Middle East conflict from an Israeli and a Palestinian who have endured tragedy and chosen the path of peace. Ghazi Briegieth is a Palestinian Muslim who lives in Beit Ummar near Hebron on the West Bank. His 31-year-old brother was shot and killed by the Israeli army in November 2000 during the early months of the Al Aqsa Intifada. Rami Elhanan is a third generation Jerusalemite and the son of a holocaust survivor. A suicide bomber killed his 14-year old daughter, Smader Elhanan, in September 1997. Both men have suffered a great personal loss to the ongoing violence but have made a courageous commitment to seek a just and sustainable peace. These two men present a refreshing point of view on the seemingly unsolvable Middle East conflict. Their message of reconciliation, acceptance and tolerance give hope that forgiveness and compassion can overcome hatred and violence.

This speaking engagement is free. Donations are invited to supporting their work of reconciliation back home. 7:30 p.m. in the chapel on the second floor of the United Churches, 110 11th Ave (between Capitol Way and 11th). Sponsored by Olympia Friends Meeting (Quakers) and a growing number of other groups, including (at press time) the Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation and the Olympia-Rafah Sister City Project. Info: Mark Brodeck or Donna Schumann, 943-0965.

**Sun Oct 5: Explore Gandhi's Concepts and Practice of Satyagraha and Ahimsa** Learn about and discuss satyagraha and ahimsa, the concepts of nonviolent non-cooperation and love that Gandhi lived by. Janice Holz, a member of All Souls Unitarian Universalist Community, will present a sermon/message on satyagraha and ahimsa, two concepts central to Gandhi's work. The service begins at 11:00 a.m. and is followed by time for discussion, snacks, and conversation. Copies of the sermon will also be posted on the All Souls website www.asuuc.org after the service. All Souls meets at the Columbian Hall, 6794 Martin Way E, Lacey. Take I-5 exit #109 onto Martin Way and go east on Martin Way through Lacey. Go east for about 1¼ miles past Carpenter Road to the traffic light at Kinwood Drive. When you reach Kinwood Drive, turn left into the driveway on the north side of Martin Way. Follow it back to Columbian Hall, which is set back from the road.

**Sun Oct 5: Save a Life: A Benefit for Cambodian Victims of Land Mines** Cambodian Buddhist monks will tell stories of Cambodian culture from ancient to modern eras. They also will tell what happened a few decades ago during Pol Pot's reign of terror. A movement is underway to remove the land mines that continue to kill and maim today. Music will celebrate opportunities for world peace. Music will include local Native American drummers, a Jewish choir, singers from Unity Church, traditional chants by Cambodian Buddhist monks, and harp music. Traditional food will be available. This event generates income directly for removing land mines and helping victims. 2:00 p.m. at Washington Center for the Performing Arts, 512 Washington SE. Sponsor: Wat Prachum Raingsey Cambodian Buddhist Association. Tickets and info: Earth Magic 754-0357 www.geocities.com/earthmagictours/events

**Sun Oct 5: National Day of Protest** The peace group Not in Our Name says: "We see through the lies. War is not peace. Occupation is not liberation. Immigrants are not terrorists. Police state restrictions are not security." NION has called for a National Day of Protest on Sunday October 5. Info: 206-322-3813 www.notinourname-Seattle.net seattle_notinourname@hotmail.com

**Mon-Fri Oct 6-10: Walk to School Week** Kids can do their part to reduce global warming by walking to school this week instead of burning fossil fuels. People of all ages can promote alternatives to fossil fuels by working with all levels of governments to make streets more walkable for people of all ages. Info: Chris Hawkins, Coordinator of Smart Moves Transportation Programs at Climate Solutions, 610 4th Ave E, Olympia 352-1763 ext 105 chris@climatesolutions.org

**Tues Oct 7: Olympia City Council Forum on the Patriot Act** In August the Thurston County Coalition to Protect the Constitution submitted "A Resolution Against the Patriot Act" to the Olympia City Council. On Tuesday October 7 the Olympia City Council will hold a Community Forum where Olympia residents can speak about it. The session begins at 7:00 p.m. If you want to testify, please sign up at 6:30. It will be at City Hall, 900 Plum Street SE. The Coalition also encourages people to support the Resolution by sending letters to the Olympia City Council and to newspapers. At press time, some councilmembers were undecided, so every voice and letter really counts! If the City Council votes to pass the Resolution, Olympia will join more than 167 communities nationwide that have passed anti-Patriot Act resolutions. To read more about the progress of the Resolution please see the Bill of Rights Defense Committee's website, www.bordc.org The Thurston County Coalition to Protect the Constitution is planning to approach the Thurston County Commission next in order to pass a similar Resolution countywide. For more information or to offer your help, please call Bruce at 456-7180.

**Tues Oct 7: Exploring Deep Ecology** Look deeply at our relationships with the earth and our responsibility to the earth. Topics include deep ecology, the Gaia Hypothesis, spirituality and the earth, Native American wisdom, simplicity, the new science ecopsychology, and bioregionalism. Discussion group for 6-10 persons will meet at 7:00 p.m. weekly for slightly more than an hour for 8 sessions. Reading materials will be available for $18. Info & registration: 352-9351

**Wed Oct 8: "Keep Space for Peace" - Special Emphasis for Peace Vigil** As part of the International Days of Protest to Stop the Militarization of Space (Sat Oct 4 through Sat Oct 11), additional persons and signs will join the Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation's regular Wednesday peace vigil from 12 noon to 1 p.m. in the NW corner of Sylvester Park, Legion & Capitol Way. The Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space is calling for local actions around the world during this week to educate people about the dangers of the militarization of space. The global network is organizing protests at military and aerospace industry facilities and is urging people to visit their Congressional representatives. Info: Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space (207) 729-0517 www.space4peace.org Local info: Holly Gwinn Graham 866-0257 HollyGG@msn.com

**Wed Oct 8: Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace (OMJP) Semi-Monthly Meeting** See immediately below for tonight's special event - and possible change of location! OMJP is a grassroots organization dedicated to justice and peace everywhere. Everyone is welcome to their meetings on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Olympia Center, 222 N. Columbia. Info: Larry Mosqueda 867-6513 omjp@omjp.org www.omjp.org

**Wed Oct 8: Teach-In on the Wars in Afghanistan and Iraq** Two years ago on October 7 the US began attacking and bombing Afghanistan. Now we're in a quagmire in both Afghanistan and Iraq. Learn abut the background, current realities, and future possibilities. Speakers will include Alan Nasser, who will give an overview of the impacts of these wars; Therese Saliba, who will discuss the impact of these wars on the women of the countries; and Phan Nguyen, who will speak on the impact of these wars on the Palestine/Israeli conflict. 7:00 p.m. at the Olympia Center, 222 N. Columbia. (Note: This location is tentative and might change.) Sponsor: Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace (OMJP) Info: Larry Mosqueda, 867-6513, mosqueda@evergreen.edu

**Wed Oct 8: Voluntary Simplicity - Introductory Talk** Explore the notion of simplicity and consider the possible benefits of removing life's material and psychological distractions. 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Olympia Timberland Library, 8th & Franklin. Info: 705-2884

**Thurs-Sun Oct 9-12: "Fostering Alternatives to Violence" - 2nd Annual Conference of the Peace and Justice Studies Association** The national conference of this organization will feature speakers, panels, workshops and other activities at The Evergreen State College. The Peace and Justice Studies Association (PJSA) is a nonprofit organization resulting from the merger of two respected organizations, the Consortium on Peace Research Education and Development (COPRED) and the Peace Studies Association (PSA). Both organizations provided leadership on the broadly defined field of peace, conflict and justice studies. The organization brings together academics, K-12 teachers and grassroots activists to explore alternatives to violence and share visions and strategies for social justice and social change. The conference's schedule runs from 5 p.m. Thursday through 1 p.m. Sunday. Featured presenters include Pramila Jayapal, Paul Rogat Loeb, Naomi Klein, and Peter McLaren. Schedule, registration and other info: www.peacejusticestudies.org pjsa@evergreen.edu 867-5230

**Fri Oct 10: "Keep Space for Peace" - Special Emphasis for Peace Vigil** As part of the International Days of Protest to Stop the Militarization of Space (Sat Oct 4 through Sat Oct 11), additional persons and signs will join the Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation's regular Friday peace vigil from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. at the south end of Percival Landing, 4th & Water. The Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space is calling for local actions around the world from SAT OCT 4 through SAT OCT 11 to educate people about the dangers of the militarization of space. The global network is organizing protests at military and aerospace industry facilities and is urging people to visit their Congressional representatives. Info: Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space (207) 729-0517 www.space4peace.org Local info: Holly Gwinn Graham 866-0257 HollyGG@msn.com

**Fri Oct 10: St. Michael Social Justice Committee** The Social Justice Committee of St. Michael Catholic Church works on local to global peace and justice issues This month's meeting is from 7 to 9 p.m. in Meeting Room 1 at the church, 11th and Boundary, Olympia. Info: Bob Zeigler 570-0848 ZeiglerBob@msn.com

**Fri Oct 10: Elm Dance** Everyone is invited to participate in this earth-healing dance promoted by Joanna Macy to cultivate hope after the Chernobyl nuclear meltdown damaged elm forests in the former USSR. 8:00 p.m. behind Lincoln School, 21st & Washington SE. Sponsor: NW Earth Institute. Info: 352-9351

**Sat Oct 11: Yoga Meditation Free Classes** Yoga means inner oneness. It's when you feel totally in peace with yourself - beyond self-doubt and fear - radiating inner strength, joy and love from within. We all want to feel like that, and we can. The Olympia Ananda Marga Yoga Society invites people to participate in six weeks of free yoga meditation classes, starting at 10:30 a.m. at the Olympia Timberland library, 383 8th Ave SE. Info: 541-729-6662 dadasuman@yahoo.com www.anandamarga.org

**Sat Oct 11: Bands Against Bush** The public is invited to enjoy music, speakers and political conversations from 12 noon to 5 p.m. near the Tivoli Fountain on the Washington State Capitol grounds and at many other locations as part of a worldwide music and political festival for persons who oppose Bush's foreign and domestic policies. Bands Against Bush is an international movement that uses music and art for protest and political involvement. They encourage dialogue and debate as ways for people to empower themselves in a political climate that seems hostile to dissent. They want to bring people together through outreach, trust and inclusion. They want a more peaceful, just and equitable world and sees the Bush Administration as hostile to those goals. Details about events in Olympia and elsewhere will be available soon. Info: www.bandsagainstbush.com or tobi@bumpidee.com

**Sun Oct 12: Children's Day: Hands Are Not for Hurting** Kids can commit themselves to refraining from using violence, and a participatory activity can help. Participants at the "Hands Are Not for Hurting" table may trace and cut out their hands on purple paper and affirm, "I will not use my hands or my words for hurting myself or others." They may take home a reminder of this and post their drawing also on a banner with others who have taken this pledge. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Olympia Center, 222 N. Columbia. The Olympia Fellowship for Reconciliation sponsors this as a way to help implement the United Nations' International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Nonviolence for the Children of the World. Info: Kristen Dahle 357-3553 kjdahle@comcast.net

**Sun Oct 12: Toys for Peace** Toys for Peace provides caregivers with a simple guide for talking with children about non-violent play and conflict resolution, asks children to sign a peacemaker pledge, and rewards children with a peace prize. This is part of the annual Children's Day Celebration from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Olympia Center, 222 N. Columbia. Sponsor: Associated Ministries of Thurston County. 357-7224 amtcoly@aol.com

**Sun Oct 12: Peace Storytime** A reading of three children's books with themes of peace for ages 4 -8 will be followed by a small art project reflecting on a character or part from a story. 2:00 p.m. at Orca Books, 509 Fourth Ave E. Contact Orca for a list of the books that will be read. Sponsor: Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace. Info: Maya Amichai, 402-6301

**Sun Oct 12: Olympia Film Society** Give peace a chance today. Celebrate John Lennon's birthday with a special film. Free admission! Time changed to 4:00 p.m. at

Capitol Theatre, 206 E. 5th Ave.

**Tues Oct 14: Rabbinical Writings on Peace - Study Session** Rabbi Seth Goldstein of Temple Beth Hatfiloh will facilitate an in-depth reading and discussion of traditional Jewish rabbinical writings on peace. This will take place in the sukkoh, a temporary outdoor structure built for the harvest holiday, Sukkot. Everyone is welcome! No prior knowledge of Jewish literature is required. 6:30 p.m. at Temple Beth Hatfiloh, 8th & Franklin SE. Info: Temple Beth Hatfiloh 754-8519

**Tues Oct 14: El Salvador's Local Zone of Peace and Mangrove Estuary Restoration** Bob Zeigler will update the Olympia community on the exciting Zone of Peace and environmentally sound development projects led by peasants in a part of El Salvador. Bob's presentation includes a 14-minute video on the Local Zone of Peace and a 30-minute slide show on the mangrove restoration project in a coastal community there. He was part of an August 2003 delegation there, organized by the Foundation for Self Sufficiency in Central America. FSSCA is coordinated by Jose "Chencho" Alas, a former Salvadoran priest who introduced Liberation Theology in El Salvador in the 1970s. Chencho was captured by the army, beaten, drugged and left in the mountains. He was forced into exile and lived in the United States but continued to work on sustainable development projects there for 20 years, including 12 years during the brutal civil war. Hear Bob's informative and upbeat presentation from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at Traditions Cafe, 5th and Water. Info: 570-0848 zeiglerbob@msn.com

**Tues Oct 14: Choices for Sustainable Living** Explore how to transition to a sustainable society, based on sufficiency, equity and quality of life rather than quantity of output. Topics include a call to sustainability, ecological principles, business and economy, food, buying, and living visions of sustainability. Discussion group for 6-10 persons will meet at 7:00 p.m. weekly for slightly more than an hour for 8 sessions. Reading materials will be available for $18. Info & registration: 753-0196

**Wed Oct 15: Domestic Violence Survivors Day** Survivors of domestic violence will read a statewide proclamation by Gov. Locke marking the Third Annual Domestic Violence Survivors Day. Guest speakers and music will also be part of this event at 12 noon at the John O'Brien Bldg. on the State Capitol Campus. Survivors in Service are conducting this with their organization, the Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence. Info: Pinkly, Connie Sue 754-6300, ext 102

**Wed Oct 15: Voluntary Simplicity** Explore the notion of simplicity and consider the possible benefits of removing life's material and psychological distractions. Topics include the meaning of simplicity, living more with less, your money or your life, do you have the time?, how much is enough?, swimming against the tide, and the practice of simplicity. Discussion group for 6-10 persons will meet at 7:00 p.m. weekly for slightly more than an hour for 8 sessions. Reading materials will be available for $18. Info & registration: 352-9351

**Thurs Oct 16: Conversation Café** Here is an opportunity to discuss anything from local activism to general philosophies of war and peace, pride and shame, religion and the world, etc. Tonight's conversation is part of a series happening over tea every other Thursday at various locations and hosted by various groups. 7:00 p.m. at Media Island International, 816 Adams SE. Sponsor: Media Island International. Info: Warren 352-8526 or Maya 402-6301

**Thurs-Sat Oct 16-18 and Oct 23-25: Training to Mediate Disputes** The Dispute Resolution Center of Thurston County offers forty hours of basic mediation training. The course includes the philosophy, concepts, process model and specific behavioral skills to give a beginner a working knowledge of the role of a neutral mediator. This is required for serving as a mediator at the DRC and skills are highly transferable to other areas of life. Participants must attend all sessions. $490. Must pre-register early. 956-1155 www.mediatethurston.org

**Fri Oct 17: "Stories of Human Treasures" - - Heartsparkle Players** Enjoy a Playback Theatre performance honoring elders who bring wisdom, compassion, talent and vision to our communities. Playback Theatre provides talented improvisational interpretations of people's experiences and feelings around broad themes. This month focuses on the gifts from older members of our community. 7:30 p.m. at Traditions Cafe, 5th & Water. $5-$10 sliding scale donation requested, but no one will be turned away. Info: Debe Edden 943-6772

**Sat Oct 18: The Olympian's Perspectives page features a peace article** Every Saturday's Olympian newspaper includes a "Perspectives" page dealing with religious and spiritual matters. That page features an article written by someone from a local religious organization. The author and organization vary from week to week. Today's article has a peace-related theme. It is written by Ward Miles, a longtime member of the Olympia Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers). Associated Ministries of Thurston County coordinates the series of articles.

**Sat Oct 18: "Dealing with Anger & Other Emotional Triggers - A Positive Approach"** A skill-based workshop to learn the most conscious and compassionate ways to handle anger and other intense emotional responses when we are "triggered" or someone we are interacting with is triggered. Based on Nonviolent Communication (NVC), which is also known as Compassionate Communication. Sponsor: Puget Sound Network for Compassionate Communication. Workshop leaders: Suska Davis, Ph.D. and Rod Davis, Ph.D. Sliding scale fee. 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Olympia. Info and registration: 754-1600 suska@psncc.org

**Sun Oct 19: Conversation Cafe:** Today's topics are flexible. 9:00 a.m. at Ruby's Restaurant, 700 4th Ave E.

**Wed Oct 22: Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace (OMJP) Semi-Monthly Meeting** OMJP is a grassroots organization dedicated to justice and peace everywhere. Everyone is welcome to their meetings on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Olympia Center, 222 N. Columbia. Info: Larry Mosqueda 867-6513 omjp@omjp.org www.omjp.org

**Wed Oct 22: "Living Simply with Children"** Author Marie Sherlock will tell about her book of this title. She'll show how simple living makes family life richer, instills important values, and reduces stress on the earth. 7: 00 p.m., Traditions Café, 5th & Water SW. Sponsor: NW Earth Institute 705-2331

**Sat Oct 25 : "Making a Difference Around the World" - A Celebration and Information Fair** While many of us feel like we can make no difference in the world, and that cataclysmic events are just going to happen no matter what we do, thousands of people in our community are reaching out across the globe to make a difference every day. Come to a celebration and information fair centered on our community's stand in the world. Representatives from a diverse local organizations working on humanitarian, human rights, environmental, and peace solutions around the world will be there to talk with you about what they are doing and why. Come acknowledge their commitment, celebrate the best of the human spirit, and find out about some of the opportunities for you to make a difference around the world. It runs from 1:00 to 4:30 p.m. at the Lacey Timberland Library, 500 College St SE. For more information, or to participate or volunteer, contact John East 705-1687 or fstop64@comcast.net

**Sun Oct 26: Teach-in on the Patriot Act** *(NOTE: This might be rescheduled to an earlier date to prepare for Olympia City Council's consideration of a resolution opposing the Patriot Act)* Mark the second anniversary of the Patriot Act's passage by learning about it. A few weeks after the September 11 tragedies a panicky Congress passed this law without really knowing what was in it. During these two years millions of people who care about freedom have been appalled to find out what this law actually does. Now the Bush Administration is proposing a Patriot Act II with provisions that millions of people find even more appalling. This teach-in will include information about what the 2001 law does, what the proposed law would do, and how people can protect their freedoms. The Olympia City Council is considering a resolution to have Olympia join the growing number of cities and towns that are not cooperating with this repressive law. If necessary, this teach-in's date might be rescheduled for an earlier date in order to educate the public in preparation for the City Council's decision. Look in various media for information about date, time and place. Sponsor: Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace (OMJP) Info: Larry Mosqueda, 867-6513, mosqueda@evergreen.edu

**Tues Oct 28: Perspectives on the Global Economy** A speaker from the NW Earth Institute will explore the aspects and impacts of globalization on the environment, social equity, culture and the balance of power. Free. 7 to 9 p.m., Olympia Timberland Library, 8th & Franklin. Info: NW Earth Institute 705-2884

**Tues Oct 28: Women's Open Singing Circle Celebrating Life, Love and Peace:** Let's sing together, folk/inspirational songs of life, love and peace! Come share your favorite songs, learn new ones, play with resonance & harmonies. Women of all ages welcome! Bring yourself and a friend, copies of Rise up Singing (if you have it), rhythm or any instruments. 7 to 9pm 4th Tuesday of each month at Artful Life, 506 Columbia St. Info: 357-6900 Free.

**Thurs Oct 30: Conversation Café** This is a time for people of various perspectives and beliefs to gather and discuss issues revolving around Israel/Palestine, especially focusing on the role and functions of Jews who are against Israeli occupation of the West Bank, Gaza Strip and Golan Heights. This is part of a series of Conversation Cafes on various topics happening over tea every other Thursday this fall at various locations and hosted by various groups. 7 p.m.. Tonight's location will be determined soon. Sponsor: Olympia Jews Against the Occupation. Info: Maya Amichai 402-6301

# November

**Every Sunday in November: "Fed Up" Film about Genetically Engineered Agriculture** Every Sunday evening at 10:00 p.m. on TCTV you can watch this documentary about genetic engineering, industrial agriculture and sustainable alternatives. This is part of the Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation's "The Big Picture" series of documentaries on TCTV (channel 22 or 29, depending on your neighborhood). Info: Carol 866-7645 carolburns@olywa.net

**Every Monday & Every Thursday in November: "We're All in This Together!"** The Olympia FOR's November 2003 TCTV program affirms "We're All in This Together!" Modern American society and politics seem to have promoted an isolationism of individuals from the well-being of society as a whole. We tend to seek our own narrow interests at the expense of other people. Many people feel alienated from society. Cynical politicians play groups against each other and promote a selfish "Leave Me Alone" attitude. Citizens rebel against paying taxes to help people in need or serve the common good. But just like the science of ecology show that all life forms in an ecosystem are interconnected, so also are all individuals and groups within a society interconnected. This program will explore the wisdom of seeing the unity of all of humanity. This will improve our quality of life.

This airs at 1:30 p.m. Mondays and 9 p.m. Thursdays on Thurston Community Television, channel 22 or 29, depending on viewer location in Thurston County. Sponsor: Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation. Info: Glen Anderson 491-9093 glen@olywa.net

**Sat Nov 1 : Transforming Conflict** This highly interactive workshop will focus on the principles of process work, a cross-disciplinary approach to support individual and collective change that was originally developed by Arnold Mindell, a Jungian analyst working in Zurich, Switzerland. Participants will learn concepts and practical skills for working with power and marginalization to address the emotional and invisible forces just below the content of a conflict. In addition, the session will provide skills for working with escalation, accusations, anger and violence in a conflict.

This workshop is designed for community leaders and community members, including government officials, tribal leaders, public and private sector managers and employees, human resource professionals, labor representatives, social justice advocates, teachers, youth workers, counselors, social workers, police officers, probation officers and mediators. Presenter Stephen Schuitervoerder was trained as a psychologist in South Africa and lived and worked for eight years in Australia before moving to the U.S. He has worked with individuals, couples, families and groups for more than 20 years. As a lecturer and facilitator, he has presented seminars throughout the world, and is a certified process worker. Pre-registration $95 ($45 for students and current DRC volunteers); Day-of-event $125 ($60 for students and current DRC volunteers). Limited to 60 participants. This workshop benefits the Dispute Resolution Center of Thurston County, 956-1155. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at First Christian Church, 701 Franklin St. SE.

**Tues Nov 4: Nonviolent Communication Introductory Workshop** Would you like to fill your world with more respect and hope, and reduce the criticism and misunderstanding? Nonviolent Communication offers specific, immediately usable tools for talking truth and hearing hope. This workshop uses a well-known model developed by Marshall Rosenberg. 6:45 - 9 p.m. at Lincoln Elementary School, 21st & Washington SE. Meet in the cafeteria, off Washington Street and behind the building by parking lot. Puget Sound Network for Nonviolent Communication. Contributions from the heart accepted, but not required. Info: Liv Monroe, 357-4503 or liv@psncc.org

**Wed Nov 5: ACLU of Thurston County** meets at 7:00 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month at the Olympia Center, 222 N Columbia. Info: Bruce DeLoria 456-7180 info@aclu-thurston.org

**Wed Nov 5: Theology of Peace and Mesoamerica Peace Project with Jose "Chencho" Alas** 7:00 p.m. at Radio Ranch, 3102 8th Ave NE. Info: Bob 570-0848

**Thurs Nov 6: World Peace Prayer Meeting** This occurs on the first Thursday evening of each month at 7: 00 p.m. at Lacey Community Center, 6729 Pacific Ave SE, Lacey. Sponsor: SGI-USA-Olympia chapter. (Sokagakkai International is a lay organization of Nichiren Buddhism). Info: Scott or Fil Lipsker 493-2431 flipsker36@hotmail.com scottlip49@hotmail.com

**Thurs Nov 6: Dances of Universal Peace** Each dance, song and language is taught as we go. No musical or dance experience required, and everyone is welcome. Participation, not presentation, is the focus. Movements and songs include themes of peace (both inner and outer) and healing (earth, individuals and global family). Dancers focus on peace and harmony and create a sense of solidarity and community while celebrating the underlying unity of all the spiritual traditions of earth. This series takes place on the first Thursday of the month, except during summer. 7:30-9 p.m., Unity Church, 1335 Fern St SW. Safiya Crane 943-2623.

**Fri Nov 7 through Sun Nov 16: 20th Annual Olympia Film Festival** The Olympia Film Society brings the world into focus by showing some international films among the annual film festival's usual variety. Peace comes through increased understanding and appreciation of other cultures. Look for the list of film titles and show times. New website: www.olywa.net/ofs 754-537820 The Film Festival highlights include:"Resisting Paradise" by Barbara Hammer, a film about how people approach art during time of war. "The Weather Underground" tells the story about the split of SDS into the Weathermen movement in the late 60s. Filmmaker Jack Stevenson will come here from Denmark and give a presentation "Know Your Enemy" about war propaganda films from the 1940s through the 60s. Check OFS Film Festival Book or www.olyfilm.org for dates and times of these & other films.

**Sun Nov 9 : Elm Dance** Everyone is invited to participate in this earth-healing dance promoted by Joanna Macy to cultivate hope after the Chernobyl nuclear meltdown damaged elm forests in the former USSR. 8: 00 p.m. behind Lincoln School, 21st & Washington SE. Sponsor: NW Earth Institute. Info: 352-9351

**Sun Nov 9 : Peace Wave: Movement as an Expression of Peace** Please join the Sunday Sweat Your Prayers Class at the Heart & Soul Studio for a special Peace Wave. This is an opportunity to dance with the intention of cultivating and celebrating peace. 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon at Heart & Soul Studio, 510 Columbia St. SW (between Legion and 5th). Donation basis. Everyone is welcome; no previous dance experience is needed. Info: Amara 705-9100

**Tues Nov 11 (or a nearby date): Veterans Day activities** Combat era veterans will discuss their experiences and analysis, especially for the younger generation. Planning is underway now. Look for publicity by mid-October. Sponsor: Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace (OMJP) Info: Larry Mosqueda, 867-6513, mosqueda@evergreen.edu

**Wed Nov 12 : Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace (OMJP) Semi-Monthly Meeting** OMJP is a grassroots organization dedicated to justice and peace everywhere. Everyone is welcome to their meetings on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Olympia Center, 222 N. Columbia. Info: Larry Mosqueda 867-6513 omjp@omjp.org www.omjp.org

**Thurs Nov 13: Conversation Café** Here is an opportunity to discuss anything from local activism to general philosophies of war and peace, pride and shame, religion and the world, etc. Tonight's conversation is part of a series happening over tea every other Thursday at various locations and hosted by various groups. 7:00 p.m. at Media Island International, 816 Adams SE. Sponsor: Media Island International. Info: Warren 352-8526 or Maya 402-6301

**Fri Nov 14: St. Michael Social Justice Committee** The Social Justice Committee of St. Michael Catholic Church works on local to global peace and justice issues This month's meeting is from 7 to 9 p.m. in Meeting Room 1 at the church, 11th and Boundary, Olympia. Info: Bob Zeigler 570-0848 ZeiglerBob@msn.com

**Fri-Sat Nov 21 - 22 : "Steps to Justice" Mini-Conference** The public is invited to a modest conference/ retreat focusing on themes of social and economic justice - especially minorities, youth, and labor. Pre-registration is encouraged. On-site registration begins at 5:15 p.m., potluck dinner at 5:30, and the evening's events at 7 p.m.. Saturday's breakfast begins at 7:30 a.m., and the labor portion begins at 9 a.m. It will be held at a pleasant retreat site in Lacey. Sponsor: Western Washington Fellowship of Reconciliation. Info in Olympia: Glen Anderson 491-9093 glen@olywa.net Pre-registration in Seattle: 206-789-5565 wwfor@connectexpress.com

**Tues Nov 25: Women's Open Singing Circle Celebrating Life, Love and Peace:** Let's sing together, folk/inspirational songs of life, love and peace! Come share your favorite songs, learn new ones, play with resonance & harmonies. Women of all ages welcome! Bring yourself and a friend, copies of Rise up Singing (if you have it), rhythm or any instruments. 7 to 9pm 4th Tuesday of each month at Artful Life, 506 Columbia St. Info: 357-6900 Free.

**Fri Nov 28: Buy Nothing Day** Opt out excessive materialism! Deliver a landmark social message! Participate in the 11th annual "Buy Nothing Day." In recent years people have held teach-ins, credit card cut-ups, potlucks, and other creative ways to opt out. Go to www.adbusters.com for more ideas and information.

# Choosing Peace Resource Guide

## Organizations and Information Sources for Peace, Human Rights, and Civil Society

*(Continued from previous page)*

Monday through Friday on more than 140 stations in North America, including KAOS-FM 89.3 from 9 to 10 a.m. and TCTV (cable channels 22/29) in Thurston County from 5 to 7 a.m. and 4 to 5 p.m. You may also read their news and other information at www.democracynow.org

**Dispute Resolution Center of Thurston County** helps people resolve disputes by bringing the parties together and facilitating a good problem-solving process. Disputes include family, divorce, and visitation problems; conflicts in the workplace or neighborhood; misunderstandings among friends and associates; problems with governmental agencies, the kinds of disputes that commonly go to Small Claims Court, and some victim/offender problems. The DRC trains mediators well and always seeks more volunteers. (360) 956-1155 www.mediatethurston.org

**Education for Peace in Iraq Center (EPIC)** has been working with other groups for years to inform the public and Congress about the economic sanctions that killed 5,000 Iraqi children every month by depriving them of basic human needs such as clean water, medicine, etc. EPIC's work for the Iraqi people continues. EPIC, 1101 Pennsylvania Ave S.E., Washington DC, 20003 (202) 543-6176 www.epic-usa.org

**Fairness & Accuracy in Reporting (FAIR)** analyzes news media coverage and exposes both overt and hidden bias. FAIR helps us understand what is really happening and how to get behind the spin and bias. FAIR publishes *Extra!* magazine and produces the "CounterSpin" radio program that Olympia's KAOS-FM 89.3 broadcasts every Monday at 5:30 p.m. FAIR, 112 West 27th Street, New York, NY 10001 www.fair.org

**Fellowship of Reconciliation** is the national level of the nation's oldest interfaith pacifist organization (since 1915). Local chapters exist in about a hundred communities throughout the US (See **Olympia FOR** below), and national FOR groups exist in about 40 other countries. The FOR has broad multi-issue concerns, works well in coalition with other organizations, and welcomes all people who are interested in nonviolence, including those who are not formally religious. The FOR's website includes links to other organizations, including some of the affiliated religious peace fellowships (Baptist, Buddhist, Episcopal, Jewish, Lutheran, Muslim, and Orthodox) that have their own websites. FOR, Box 271, Nyack NY 10960 (845) 358-4601 www.forusa.org

**Foreign Policy in Focus** describes itself as "a think tank without walls" and provides a huge variety of interesting information. www.fpif.org

**Friends Committee on National Legislation** provides Quaker perspectives on peace, disarmament, military spending, human rights, and specific geographical areas, and other public policy issues. FCNL is well respected for its high quality information and its ability to mobilize thoughtful pressure on Congress. FCNL, 245 Second St NE, Washington DC 20002 (202) 547-6000 www.fcnl.org

**Global Exchange** is an international human rights organization that works for environmental, political, economic and social justice. Since 1988 it has increased the US public's global awareness and built partnerships worldwide. It has done especially good work regarding global economic trade issues and certain nations that are in serious conflict. It has worked hard for peace with Iraq. Global Exchange, 2017 Mission Street, #303, San Francisco, CA, 94110 (415) 255-7296 www.globalexchange.org

**Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space**, PO Box 90083, Gainesville, FL 32607 (352) 337-9274 The National Missile Defense ("Star Wars") scheme is vastly more dangerous than the public recognizes. It is much more offensive than defensive. The Global Network is the premier source of information. Contact www.space4peace.org or call Holly Gwinn Graham in Olympia (360) 866-0257 HollyGG@msn.com

**IndyMedia** is a growing worldwide movement for independent media. For example, Seattle's Independent Media Center identifies itself as "a grassroots organization committed to using media production and distribution as a tool for promoting social and economic justice. It is our goal to further the self-determination of people under-represented in media production and content, and to illuminate and analyze local and global issues that impact ecosystems, communities and individuals. We seek to generate alternatives to the biases inherent in the corporate media controlled by profit, and to identify and create positive models for a sustainable and equitable society." www.seattleindymedia.org

**International Solidarity Movement** works nonviolently to end the illegal Israeli occupation of Palestinian land and abuse of Palestinian people. Individuals from around the world volunteer to raise international awareness and to use nonviolent, direct-action methods of resistance to confront and challenge illegal Israeli occupation forces and policies. www.palsolidarity.org

**KAOS-FM 89.3** is Olympia's premier alternative radio station. Since 1973 (an amazing 30 years!) KAOS has broadcast an exceptionally wide range of music, news and public affairs programs. Financial contributors receive monthly program guides by mail and discounts with some local businesses. Program guides are available from a few other sources or at KAOS's website (where you may also listen through your computer) at www.kaosradio.org

**Media Island International** is an amazing local non-profit organization providing information, referrals, active organizing, etc., on a wide variety of issues. Their website is amazing! MII, P.O. Box 7204, Olympia WA 98507 Visit 816 Adams SE, Olympia, and look through their literature racks. (360) 352-8526 mii@olywa.net www.mediaisland.org

**Middle East Peace Research and Information Project (MERIP)** has provided solid information and analysis on the Middle East since 1971 for media and others who want accurate and professional quality information. It publishes a quarterly *Middle East Report* and also provides free, web-only news analysis and commentary. MERIP is a non-profit, non-governmental organization that is completely independent and has no links to any religious, educational or political organizations in the US or elsewhere. www.merip.org

**MoveOn** brings ordinary people back into politics by serving as an on-line catalyst for grassroots involvement. MoveOn's international network of two million online activists is huge, quick and powerful. When there is a disconnect between broad public opinion and legislative action, MoveOn builds electronic advocacy groups. Recent examples have included Iraq, campaign finance, environmental and energy issues, impeachment, gun safety, and nuclear disarmament. www.moveon.org

***The Nation*** is one of the US's oldest political periodicals (since 1865 - that's 138 years!). This weekly magazine publishes some of the best authors and articles available anywhere. It is essential reading for liberals and progressives who want to stay well informed. Subscribe by mail or read articles at www.thenation.com

**Nonviolence Web** is a tremendous, wide-ranging resource for information and articles about nonviolence and links to a wide variety of organizations and sources supporting nonviolence. Highly recommended! www.nonviolence.org

**Not in Our Name** mobilizes Americans who are offended by the current wars our government is conducting. This organization and website helps people speak out, connect and act. www.notinourname.net

**Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation** has been working locally for peace, social justice and nonviolence since 1976. The Olympia FOR carries out a wide variety of activities, including vigils, TCTV programs, workshops, special events, a bimonthly newsletter, a website and more. The Olympia FOR is broadly intergenerational and interfaith (including people of no particular religion) and works cooperatively with organizations throughout our community and beyond. (360) 491-9093 www.OlyFOR.org

**Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace (OMJP)** meets twice a month to organize and carry out a variety of informational and action-oriented activities to promote peace and social justice. OMJP believes that the issues of justice and peace cannot be separated, and that by furthering economic and social justice we create the conditions for a peaceful world. OMJP includes educators, students and a variety of community activists, and works well with other groups. www.omjp.org

**Olympia-Rafah Sister City Project** actively promotes and fosters friendships between the people of Olympia, Washington and Rafah, Palestine, to strengthen cross-cultural awareness and understanding, international cooperation, justice, and peace. Rachel Corrie (1979-2003) envisioned a sister-city relationship between Olympia and Rafah. ORSCP is informing the local community and working on several projects. ORSCP, PO Box 6275, Olympia WA 98507 www.orscp.org

**Olympians for Peace in the Middle East** educates the community about the background and current realities related to the Israel-Palestine conflict. OPME works to end the Israeli occupation of Palestinian land and supports peace, security and human dignity for all people. www.opme.org

**Pax Christi USA** is the nationwide Catholic peace organization within the international Pax Christi movement. Pax Christi USA explores, articulates, and witnesses to the call of Christian nonviolence from the personal to the global level, and works to transform structures of society. Pax Christi USA rejects war, preparations for war, and every form of violence and domination. It advocates primacy of conscience, economic and social justice, and respect for creation. It promotes the gospel imperative of peacemaking as a priority in the Catholic Church in the United States. Pax Christi USA, 532 W. 8th Street Erie, PA 16502 www.paxchristiusa.org Local information: Bob Zeigler 570-0848 zeiglerbob@msn.com

**Peace and Justice Studies Association (PJSA)** is a nonprofit organization resulting from the merger of two respected organizations, the Consortium on Peace Research Education and Development (COPRED) and the Peace Studies Association (PSA). Both organizations provided leadership on the broadly defined field of peace, conflict and justice studies. The organization brings together academics, K-12 teachers and grassroots activists to explore alternatives to violence and share visions and strategies for social justice and social change. www.peacejusticestudies.org pjsa@evergreen.edu (360) 867-5230

**Peace & Justice Calendar** is a very comprehensive calendar listing many hundreds of events (mostly in the Seattle area) related to peace, social justice, nonviolence, feminism, racial justice, environmental concerns, gay/lesbian/bi/trans issues, and more. It is updated often and posted at http://www.scn.org/activism/calendar. You can have it e-mailed to you regularly by sending a request to bb369@scn.org and specifying text or RTF formatted or both.

**People for the American Way** works for the values and institutions that sustain a diverse democratic society. Many of these are now threatened by the radical right and its allies who have gained political power. People for the American Way collaborates with other organizations to mobilize Americans to protect diversity and democracy. www.pfaw.org

**Program on Corporations, Law & Democracy** instigates democratic conversations and actions that contest the authority of corporations to govern. Since the late 1800s corporations have accumulated more and more legal and political powers. Ordinary citizens, workers, consumers and voters are finding their powers and choices squeezed out. This threatens democracy and our inalienable human rights. POCLAD researches and publicizes information and organizes efforts to restore democracy. POCLAD, Box 246, South Yarmouth MA 02664 (508) 398-1145 www.poclad.org

***The Progressive***, a monthly magazine, has published articles and information supporting peace and social justice since 1909. This consistently terrific publication is highly recommended! You can subscribe or read the articles on their website www.progressive.org

**Puget Sound Network for Compassionate Communication** sponsors training and provides printed resources to promote Compassionate Communication (Nonviolent Communication), a model developed by Marshall Rosenberg. This helps people meet their needs without hurting other people. Its principles work at all levels from the interpersonal through international levels. www.psncc.org

**September Eleventh Families for Peaceful Tomorrows** is an organization of persons whose family members died in the 9-11-01 attack and who want peace rather than war as the US response. www.peacefultomorrows.org

**Sound Nonviolent Opponents of War (SNOW)** is a Puget Sound area coalition of more than 100 groups working to prevent escalation of war in Iraq and elsewhere. SNOW has explicit guidelines affirming nonviolence and respect for everyone. SNOW, 225 N 70th St, Seattle WA 98103-5099 (206) 789-2684 www.snowcoalition.org

**Support Sanity** works to publicly affirm the fundamental humanity of people on both sides of the Israeli-Palestinian issue - both as an end in itself and as the only basis for resolving the problems. This independent public campaign is promoting an evenhanded two-state solution by promoting the mass display of a simple, "symmetrically-affirmative" symbol: the Israeli and Palestinian flags crossed in friendship over the motto "Justice · Peace · Life." www.supportsanity.org

**Thurston Council on Cultural Diversity and Human Rights**, is a small county agency that actively promotes diversity and respect for all people, regardless of race, religion or other differences. 2000 Lakeridge Dr SW, Olympia WA 98502-6045 (360) 786-5498 elderr@co.thurston.wa.us

**Thurston - Santo Tomas Sister County Association** is a grassroots-based sister county association with Santo Tomas, Nicaragua. TSTSCA believes that international justice and peace depend on the friendships of people across national, cultural and ethnic boundaries. For 15 years TSTSCA has organized exchange delegations with citizens in Santo Tomas and Thurston County, raised funds for material aid projects, and raised political awareness here about Nicaraguan realities and US foreign and economic policies. TSTSCA, PO Box 561, Olympia WA 98507 (360) 357-8323

**TomPaine.com** is a public interest journal inspired by the great patriot from the US colonial era, Thomas Paine, who wrote powerfully for liberty and democracy and against distant and unaccountable rulers. **TomPaine.com** seeks to enrich the national debate on controversial public issues by featuring the ideas, opinions, and analyses too often overlooked by the mainstream media. These are publish in some print media and on the website www.TomPaine.com **TomPaine.com** is a project of a nonprofit organization funded by foundations and individual donors. It accepts no advertising or donations from businesses.

**True Majority** is an effort that believes a great many people support peace and fairness, so it researches the issues, prepares sample e-mails, and invites you to send focused messages at the right times to political officials. www.truemajority.com

**TruthOut** wants to get the truth out. Every day it sends subscribers a simple e-mail offering links to about a dozen interesting news articles dealing with foreign and domestic issues. Click on those you want to read, and ignore the rest. TruthOut is offered free of charge. It has no ads and is supported by purely voluntary donations. Subscribe at http://www.truthout.org/membership/sub_mgmt.php

**United for Peace and Justice** is an amazingly diverse nationwide coalition of more than 650 national and local organizations throughout the US that came together to prevent and oppose the 2003 war against Iraq and our government's policy of permanent warfare and empire-building. UFPJ has spurred hundreds of protests and rallies around the country, and organized the two largest demonstrations against the Iraq war. www.unitedforpeace.org

**United for Peace - Thurston County** is the local affiliate of the nationwide UFPJ coalition. We planned and carried out a great number and variety of local activities before and during the 2003 war on Iraq. Planning for the future is underway. www.united4peacetc.org

**United Nations** does a tremendous variety of practical and constructive work all over the world. The UN's website has a wealth of information. Check it out! www.un.org

**Veterans for Peace** is a non-profit educational and humanitarian organization dedicated to the abolishing war. VFP was founded in 1985 by ex-service members committed to sharing the horrors they experienced. Based on their first-hand experience, they proudly and patriotically continue to denounce war despite whatever misguided sense of euphoria supports it. VFP, World Community Center, 438 North Skinker, St. Louis MO 63130 314-725-6005 www.veteransforpeace.org

**War Resisters League** is one of the few great old (1923) principled pacifist organizations. WRL, 339 Lafayette St, New York NY 10012 (212) 228-0450 wrl@warresisters.org www.warresisters.org

***War Times*** focuses on the new war and related wars since Sept 11, 2001. Its publication includes a Spanish version. www.war-times.org

**Washington Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty** is the only statewide organization dedicated exclusively to working to abolish the death penalty. WCADP works actively to educate the public, conduct community activities, and inform political leaders. It provides printed resources and speakers, coordinates anti-death penalty activities, works with the media and legislature, and maintains contact with persons on Washington's death row. This truly is a peace issue, because many of the same dynamics that fuel wars also fuel the passions to kill certain individuals. WCADP, PO Box 3045, Seattle, WA 98114-3045 (206) 622-8952 www.abolishdeathpenalty.org

**Western Washington Fellowship of Reconciliation (WWFOR)** provides information and support for working on important peace and social justice issues, connections with local FOR chapters in Western Washington, and links beyond. WWFOR, 225 N 70th St, Seattle WA 98103-5099 (206) 789-5565 www.scn.org/activism/wwfor

**Working for Change** is an on-line journal of progressive news and opinion published by Working Assets. Visit www.WorkingForChange.com A sister site www.ActForChange.com provides a direct and free link to the decision-makers who can make a difference on important and timely issues.

***Works in Progress*** is an Olympia-based monthly newsprint publication providing alternative views of local, national and global issues. Almost all of *WIP*'s articles are written by local volunteers. *WIP* informs and activates local people to confront injustice, and it encourages a participatory democracy based on economic, social and environmental justice. *WIP* is available for free at many sites throughout the greater Olympia area or by mail for $35/year ($15 low income). *WIP*, PO Box 295, Olympia WA 98507 wip@olywa.net www.olywa.net/wip

# Olympia City Council Position 3:

## T.J. Johnson

### Bio

Johnson has an exceptionally lenthy civic biography. In 1993 he joined the Washington State Energy Office (WSEO) to provide technical assistance for the Commute Trip Reduction (CTR) program, a fledgling effort to reduce traffic congestion, air pollution and energy consumption through employer based programs that reduce the number of employees driving alone to work. With the closing of WSEO in 1996, the CTR program was transferred to the Washington State Department of Transportation and TJ assumed increasing responsibility; he is currently the CTR Program Manager. Under his leadership, the CTR program has become nationally recognized for its innovation and effectiveness. In 2000, the Governor's Blue Ribbon Commission called the CTR program the most effective transportation investment in the state.

Johnson is a past member of the Board of Directors of the Olympic Renewable Resources Association and the Thurston County Visitor and Convention Bureau. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Olympia Downtown Association (ODA), and is chair of the 2003 *I Like Olympia! Operation Downtown Cleanup*. He is also the Secretary and a member of the Board of Directors of Garden Raised Bounty (GruB), a local organization that works to empower at-risk youth and fight hunger and improve the nutrition of low income people and seniors throughout Thurston and Mason counties.

Johnson is member of the Thurston County Democratic Central Committee and a Precinct Committee Officer (PCO) for Olympia 246. He is a former chair of the County Platform Committee, and represented Thurston County on the 2000 State Platform Committee. He is also a member of the Green Party of South Puget Sound, and is committed to building a Green/Democrat coalition that can advance progressive policies and elect progressive candidates at the city, county, state, and national level.

### Top Donors

* South Sound Greens ($300)
* Lillian Peeples ($250)
* Jeffery Bean ($200)
* Mary Schlect ($100)
* Matthew Green ($100)
* Mark Bean ($100)
* Jim Lazar ($100)

### Endorsements

* Freedom Vote (Strongly Endorsed)
* Green Party of South Puget Sound
* Thurston County Democratic Women's Club,
* Thurston County Young Democrats
* Thurston Environmental Action League (TEAL)
* Washington Conservation Voters
* Thurston County Assessor Patricia Costello
* Olympia City Councilmember Kurt Pavola
* Olympia City Councilmember Laura Ware
* Olympia City Councilmember Matthew Green
* Tumwater City Councilmember Karen Valenzuela
* Olympia School Board Member Russ Lehman
* Thurston County PUD Commissioner Gary Cooper
* Thurston County PUD Commissioner Paul Pickett
* Former Congresswoman Jolene Unsoeld
* Former Commissioner of Public Lands Jennifer Belcher
* Former Olympia Mayor Bob Jacobs
* Former Olympia City Councilmember Pat Cole
* Former Tumwater City Councilmember Walt Jorgense

### Position on the Conference Center

Early on, Johnson characterized the project as "risky" and has always supported the idea of giving the citizens an opportunity to vote on the issue. See the article entitled *Dave Kent and TJ Johnson discuss the conference center,* page 7 of this issue.

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*Ana makes a lovely vegan sauce!*

## Dave Kent

### Bio

Kent currently owns a landscaping business called Yard Perfect. He ran this business for six years without a city business license, which he obtained within a few days of announcing his intention to run for city council. Previous to operating his landscaping business, he owned and operated Rainbow Sports for fifteen years. He is married to Susan Kent, past Chair, Olympia Chamber of Commerce, now on the Thurston County Chamber of Commerce. She is an administrator at Capital Medical Center, which is a member of the Economic Development Council.

### Top Donors

* Olympia Police Guild ($1,000)
* Thurston Affordable Housing Council (Olympia Master Builders) ($500)
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* Renee C Ries, Owner, Fairchild Record search, LTD. ($250)
* Steve and Teri Ryan, Manager, West Coast Bank ($250)

### Endorsements

* Board of Realtors
* Freedom Vote (see chart elsewhere in this issue for specifics)
* Olympia Police Guild
* International Association of Fire Fighters in Olympia
* Thurston Affordable Housing Council (Olympia Master Builders)

### Position on the Conference Center

Kent was an early supporter of the project and has consistently argued against allowing the citizens to vote on the matter. See the article entitled *Dave Kent and TJ Johnson discuss the conference center,* page 7 of this issue.

*(Dave Kent and TJ Johnson, continued)*

like TJ said. That hasn't been resolved. And so, while I support the concept of the conference center, I'm reserved on saying would I vote for it today until we resolve that.

And I have thirty more seconds, so I'll address this issue, we'll get this right out in the open right now, on voting. I think elected officials are elected to make decisions. And I think we need to encourage them to make decisions and I think we ought to *demand* that they make decisions. That's what we elected them for and that's what our whole society and our constitution it relates to.

Second part of that is is that it's the council people who have sat in on all the meetings with the staff. They've listened to the consultants and they've paid their dues to listen to this. I feel that the public — though it's certainly their money, I'm not backing down on that — but I think the public has heard what the media has presented. Now, the media is presenting information they have, but have they, the public, sat in on all these meetings? Therefore I believe that the council should make the decision that they're elected for and we should demand it.

**Dennis**: Just a quick follow-up. TJ, is your desire to have a vote on this issue something you would do with all capital projects or what is it about the convention center that warrants a vote by the citizens that other capital projects wouldn't?

**TJ**: I agree with Dave in one respect and that is that we elect city council people to lead, but we also elect them to *represent.* And my concern on this issue is that I bet 80-90% of the public that I've run into feels like they're not being represented by a majority of the city council on this issue, who are moving forward with this project. And we can't just say they should make all the decisions, because there's a disconnect. And we have to re-establish that partnership and ensure that they are representative of the members of the community.

So no, I don't want to put every issue to a public vote. I think we've seen the consequences of that approach at a statewide level and the chickens have come home to roost on that. But in significant community issues where there has been not a very good public process and there is a clear and very strong division in the community, we ought to put it up for a public vote just like we did on the fluoride referendum, the Farmers Market, libraries, and other things. This is no different. Let's let the citizens have their say.

*Thanks to Chris Powell, KAOS News Director, for providing an audio disc of this forum.*

# Israel's Assassination Policy Triggers Latest Suicide Bombings

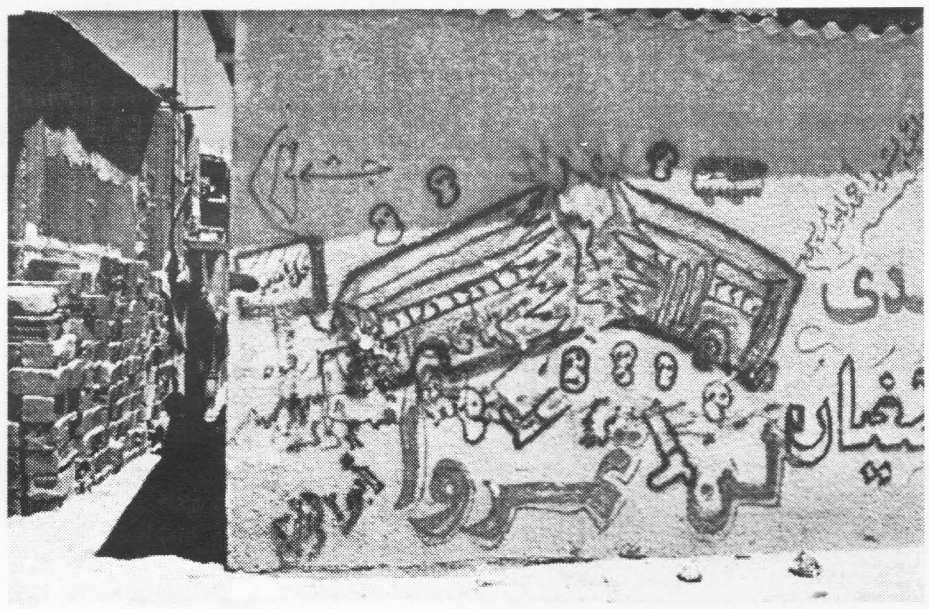
**Steve Niva**

Palestinian suicide bombings are vicious and grave abuses, clearly war crimes under international law for intentionally killing civilians. They have also been a strategic disaster for Palestinian national aspirations, souring the Israeli public on peace and damaging the Palestinian cause in the court of world opinion.

Nevertheless, it is nearly impossible to avoid concluding that the current Israeli government of Prime Minister Ariel Sharon has either deliberately provoked a number of them or at least undertaken actions that would clearly risk them. Either way, it is complicit in the deaths of scores of Israeli citizens.

For how else can one explain the Israeli decision to assassinate senior military and political leaders from militant Palestinian groups like Hamas and Islamic Jihad during the past three months when it is well documented that such actions frequently result in a suicide bombing, usually within a week?

In four of the past five suicide bombings, the timing of the bombing, the fact that group whose senior militant was assassinated carried out the attack, and the explicit claim of revenge for the assassination in all of these cases leave little room for doubt about cause and effect.



***It is nearly impossible to avoid concluding that the current Israeli government of Prime Minister Ariel Sharon has either deliberately provoked a number of [suicide bombings] or at least undertaken actions that would clearly risk them. Either way, it is complicit in the deaths of scores of Israeli citizens.***

The most recent atrocity in Jerusalem on August 19, in which twenty-one Israelis were immolated on a bus returning from Jewish holy sites, including many children and elderly, came within four days of Israel's August 15 assassination of Muhammed Sidr, the commander of Islamic Jihad's Quds Brigades in Hebron. The Quds Brigades issued a statement warning that their response would be swift "like an earthquake" and would strike at the heart of Israel.

Islamic Jihad's immediate claim of responsibility after the brutal bombing initially appeared to be contradicted by a Hamas released videotape of one of its own Hebron activists, Raed Abdel-Hamed Mesk, who undertook the attack. Yet although Jihad and Hamas are often rivals, Mesk asserted in the video he would carry out a suicide bombing to avenge the killing of Sidr, who was widely reported to be a close associate at a local mosque. Hamas spokesmen claimed it was also avenging the June 21 Israeli assassination of Abdullah Qawasmeh, Hamas' local West Bank chief in Hebron.

The dual suicide bombings a week earlier on August 12 near Tel Aviv and near the Israeli settlement of Ariel in the occupied West Bank, killing two Israelis, came within four days of Israel's August 8 assassination of Fayez Al Sadr, head of Hamas' Qassem Brigades in the Askar refugee camp in Nablus. Three other Palestinians were killed in the raid. Both the Qassem Brigades and the Fatah-linked Aqsa Martyrs Brigades immediately vowed revenge and each claimed responsibility for one of the bombings that ensued. According to several reports, the young bombers, both seventeen year-olds, were both from the Askar refugee camp and had grown up within blocks of one another.

The bloody suicide bus bombing in Jerusalem two months earlier on June 11 that killed 16 Israelis came a day after Israel's June 10 attempted assassination of the senior Hamas political leader in Gaza, Abdel-Aziz Rantisi, which wounded him and killed four Palestinian civilians. Hamas had vowed a swift and dramatic response that came earlier than many predicted.

The only exception to this pattern in the past three months is that no assassination precipitated the July 8 suicide bombing in the Israeli town of Kfar Yvetz that killed an elderly Israeli woman. The Jenin branch of Islamic Jihad claimed the attack was in response to Israel's refusal to release Palestinian prisoners, though Islamic Jihad's official spokesman disavowed the attack.

None of this should be surprising. Nor should anyone believe that Israeli political and intelligence officials who planned and implemented the assassinations were surprised by the ensuing suicide attacks. Ariel Sharon and his Minister of Defense Shaul Mofaz are touted as among Israel's most acute and ruthless military tacticians, who undertake few actions without thoroughly studying their consequences.

It would be extremely difficult to imagine they were unaware that since the first Palestinian suicide bombing inside Israel on April 6, 1994 following the massacre of 29 Palestinians in Hebron's Ibrahimi Mosque by the American-Israeli settler Baruch Goldstein, many Israeli assassinations of militant commanders have been followed by suicide bombings.

This pattern can be traced to Islamic Jihad's first suicide bombings in 1994 and 1995 which it claimed as responses to the Israeli assassinations of its senior and founding leaders Hani Abed and Fathi Shiqaqi. When Hamas launched its second bus bombing campaign in 1996 following Israel's assassination of its bombing mastermind Yehiya Ayash, known as "the Engineer," the potential for such assassinations to provoke a suicide bombing was well established. Following the outbreak of the second Palestinian intifada on September 29, 2000 and Israel's resumption of a systematic assassination campaign on November 9, 2000, many suicide bombings can be directly traced to this pattern of assassination and revenge. It should be noted that the majority of the over 100 suicide bombings in the past three years cannot be directly correlated with Israel's nearly 160 extra-judicial assassinations undertaken during this time. But it undeniable that, according to Palestinian sources, Israeli assassinations have also killed over one hundred civilian bystanders in the past three years fueling demands for revenge, and that militant groups frequently list assassinations as a key justification for such attacks.

But a nearly certain predictor for a suicide bombing is when Israel assassinates a senior commander or political leader of a militant group, especially when it does so during or in the negotiations for a truce by these groups on attacks on Israelis. Examples from the past few years include:

Israel's assassination of the two leading Hamas commanders in Nablus on July 31 2001 that put an end to a nearly two-month Hamas cease-fire on Israeli civilians, leading to the August 9 Hamas suicide bombing in a Jerusalem Sbarro pizzeria.

Israel's assassination of the senior Hamas militant Mahmud Abu Hanoud on November 23, 2001 while Hamas was upholding an agreement with Arafat not to attack targets inside of Israel following the September 11 terrorist attacks on the US, leading to the Jerusalem and Haifa Hamas suicide bombings on December 1 and 2.

Israel's assassination of leading Fatah militant Raed Karmi on January 14, 2002 during a cease-fire declared by all the militant groups in late December, leading to the Fatah linked Al-Aqsa Martyr's Brigade first suicide bombing on January 27.

Israel's July 23, 2002 air attack on a crowded apartment block in Gaza City that assassinated the senior Hamas military leader, Salah Shehada, while also killing 15 civilians, 11 of them children, hours before a widely reported unilateral cease-fire declaration by the Fatah-linked Tanzim and Hamas, leading to the Hamas suicide bombing on August 4.

Israel's assassination on December 26, 2002 of three prominent members from Hamas, Islamic Jihad and Al-Aqsa Martyr's Brigade while representatives from Fatah, Hamas and other factions were meeting in Cairo to formulate a cease-fire on Israeli civilians to last through the Israeli elections on January 28, leading to the Al-Aqsa Martyr's Brigade suicide bombing on January 5, 2003 that killed twenty-two Israelis.

Given this striking pattern, it was no surprise that four out of the five recent suicide bombings came within a week of Israel's recent assassinations or attempted assassination of such high level militant commanders. All of them came during or in the process of negotiating the three-month truce against attacks on Israeli civilians that was implemented on June 29. Palestinian militants group had very clearly stated that they would consider Israeli assassinations to be a violation of the truce and that they reserved the right to respond accordingly.

Moreover, one could argue that Sharon had already undertaken nearly every action possible short of a high level assassination to undermine Palestinian support for the cease-fire and President Bush's Road Map process. In addition to mass arrests and low level killings, he had refused to dismantle Israeli settler outposts, end the siege and blockades of Palestinian cities and towns, release a significant number of Palestinian prisoners, or cease building a separation wall deep within the West Bank.

***By the same token, militant Palestinian groups must be condemned in the strongest terms for seizing upon Sharon's provocations through their myopic preoccupation with revenge through suicide bombing that has brought untold misery upon both Israelis and Palestinians.***

The only conclusion one can draw is that either Sharon thought it so important to kill these high level militant leaders at this time despite the bloody consequences for Israeli civilians or that

*(continued page 13)*

# Daily Life Under Occupation

**Emma Rose**

The Gaza Strip is approximately 360 square kilometers in area and populated by 1.3 million Palestinians, making it one of the most densely packed places on earth. Under the

*Oslo Accords, Israel retains military control over 42 percent of the Gaza Strip. This includes military bases, settlements, bypass roads, and a buffer zone along the border. Most of this area is reserved for 6,000 Israeli settlers, who make up only 0.5 percent of the population of the Gaza Strip. All Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories are illegal under the Fourth Geneva Convention, which states, "The occupying power shall not deport or transfer parts of its own civilian population into territories it occupies."* (Palestinian Centre For Human Rights)

Bodies move energetically through the air. Feet beat out an age-old rhythm. I watch several young boys perform *Dabke* between a circle of people. I clap my hands along with the beat, and admire their grace. *Dabke*, a traditional Palestinian performance, has been carried through generations. The culmination of hundreds of years of this rich culture is actualized in the feet of these boys.

Eighty children attend the summer camp where these boys are dancing. It is named after the late Rachel Corrie. Here they learn traditional songs, practice dance and theater, and make beautiful art. This art is their form of resistance. They express the anger, pain, and frustration of living under a military occupation through the tips of their pens, crayons, and pencils. While their society is stifled by military force, they refuse to forget their culture, and actively carry it on through song and performance.

As I and my colleagues prepare to leave the camp, shouts of "*ma-a-salaama*" (goodbye) and "*ana behebik*" (I love you) follow us down the street.

Summer camps are one of the activities internationals have been asked to participate in during the cease fire. Two of us have organized a bookmaking workshop with the children. We will bring many of the books back to the United States to share with children from our own communities. The pages of the children's books alternate between drawings of flowers and hearts and drawings of tanks and bulldozers. They also write in their books about living under occupation, their hopes of living without fear, and their friends who have been killed by the Israeli military. I have been living in Rafah, a city of 140,000 people in the southern Gaza Strip, for almost a month. I work with a group called the International Solidarity Movement, and I am also laying the foundations for a sister city relationship between Rafah and Olympia, WA.

The Olympia/Rafah Sister City Project was first envisioned by Rachel Corrie, 23, of Olympia. On March 16, 2003, Rachel was crushed to death by an Israeli military bulldozer, paid for by the United States, as she blocked a Rafah home from illegal demolition. The home she was protecting is one of several thousand scheduled to be demolished along the border that separates Rafah in Palestine from Rafah in Egypt. This city was cut in half by the 1978 Camp David agreements between Israel and Egypt. Palestinian family members who are stuck in Egypt now stand on the roofs of their homes to watch as Israeli bulldozer drivers demolish their families' homes in Palestine to build a massive wall. In Rafah, 932 homes have been destroyed, and 2,000 have been partially demolished.

These homes are not just buildings. They represent the foundations of the strong and loving community that exists in Rafah. They are big, hand-built of concrete, metal and wood, and painted with beautiful designs. Inside each of these homes there are families, large or small. They cook, watch television, laugh, and talk together.

The homes in Rafah bind the community together, and building a wall in place of these homes will create much more than a physical separation between people. Destroying these homes will create mental and emotional barriers which will lead to despair. As this steel wall is built where homes once stood, it creates little walls of isolation between friends, neighbors, and family members. And one of the results of this isolation is factionalism.

The wall also cuts off any hope that Palestinians and Israelis can coexist peacefully. Because of the constant surveillance by the Israeli military, as well as the intense fear, isolation, and anger caused by the occupation, many people have lost trust in whoever lives beyond the walls. When this wall is finished, Palestinians and Israelis will be permanently separated.

While staying in Rafah, I have been sleeping in the homes of three families who live along the border. During this time, they each have made me feel a part of their family. On my first night at Abu Hisham's house, I met his 17-year-old neighbor Najila. She took me next door to her own bedroom where we danced to Arabic music, and she dressed me in a wedding gown that belonged to a relative, despite my laughter and protest. Before I left that night, she took my hand, and said, "I have no sisters, and you have no sisters, so from now on we can be each other's sisters." I have been greeted with this amount of love and acceptance everywhere that I go in Rafah. Here, when women greet each other, as when men greet each other, there is an exuberant show of kissing cheeks. Unlike the handshakes that I have experienced in the United States that are quick and to the point, handshakes in Rafah are long and drawn out, expressing real love and friendship. When I walk down any street in Rafah, people come out of their homes to greet me, and invite me in for tea.

***While drinking tea after our meal, we heard…shots…fired from [a] tank, before it continued aimlessly on. 'A child's game,' said Abu Jameel."***

While making my rounds one day I hear the hum of an Israeli spy plane above my head. Meanwhile, on the ground, young children run up to me. Sometimes two hold on to my hands, walk with me, and whisper in my ear, "*Shuu ismik*," (What's your name?). "*Ana ismi* Emma," I say, and enraptured smiles light their faces. Despite the clear understanding that they are being watched from the sky, these children have no fear of a strange international walking down their streets.

With their smiles and curious questions, these children resist one of the main tactics of the Israeli military here—instilling a sense of isolation and fear into the Palestinians. The Gaza Strip has been under closure for several months, and almost no one is allowed to enter or leave. Even before this closure, it was extremely difficult for Palestinians to leave. Many people here have never set foot outside Gaza and many others have only left illegally. My new friend Ghadda told me yesterday that her greatest hope is to see Jerusalem one day. "*Insha-allah* (God willing), you will," I replied.

Because of the strict lock-down imposed on the Gaza Strip—a piece of land bordered by Israel, Egypt, and the Mediterranean—Gaza is like an island; walking down the street, I can feel it in the air. This isolation is not an accident. It serves to keep the Palestinians feeling hopeless and alone. They are like prisoners, separated from their families in the West Bank and Egypt; isolated from Israel, and from other countries. They are kept in Gaza, and forced to stew in their anger and fear, while guarded by tanks, bulldozers, sniper towers, and now walls. The one thing the Israeli military cannot keep the Palestinians from is finding happiness in their daily lives.

One way to resist the threat of death is to live life, which is what the people in Rafah do beautifully. Especially during the recent cease fire, people danced, laughed, and celebrated. Summer is the season for weddings in Palestine, and a Palestinian wedding is a real treat. The celebrations last for two weeks, with separate gatherings for men and women. The gown my friend Suzanne wore at her engagement party was a long waterfall of lavender satin. She and her fiancé sat proudly on overstuffed chairs, while the multitude of women guests danced at their feet. At the parties following weddings, large meals are served, with more dancing as a precursor.

But Palestinians don't need a special occasion to get together. Every day, adults gather for tea in the evenings to discuss politics, their families, and their philosophies of life. In the streets, children make beautiful kites out of trash bags and other debris.

This insistence on maintaining a normal life is a kind of "grace under fire" for the people of Rafah. Even during the recent cease fire between Israel and the Palestinian factions, the Israeli military continued to build the wall around the Gaza Strip. At night, even in the midst of the cease fire, tanks and bulldozers drove back and forth along the border, occasionally shooting loud machine gun fire at and around homes. This wall is making Gaza into one of the biggest prisons on earth.

Just hours after arriving in Rafah, I was introduced to Abu Jameel and his family, who live along the Egyptian border. A tall mountain of concrete and metal where a home once stood blocks the street past Abu Jameel's house. The family welcomed me warmly into their home, and fed me a delicious meal, prepared fresh from Abu Jameel's garden. While drinking tea after our meal, we heard the sound of tanks driving back and forth along the wall just outside. A line of shots was fired from the tank, before it continued aimlessly on. "A child's game," said Abu Jameel.

In Rafah the walls of buildings are lined with *shahiid* posters, which display pictures of Palestinians and internationals who have been killed by the Israeli military. Yet, many of the Palestinians in Gaza still resist the Israeli Occupation by continuing to live with hope. At an Internet cafe in Rafah I had a brief conversation with the owner. He brought me a cup of tea and asked my name and where I was from. He asked if I spoke Hebrew, and told me that he did. Before Israel shut off access to and from the Gaza Strip, he had worked in Israel. Now, thanks to the wall, there is no chance for him to talk with or even see Israelis.

"I love Israeli people," he said, "and Americans." "Yes," I said, "but the governments are a different story." He agreed. "All people want to live in peace," he told me.

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# A Failed Israeli Society Collapses While Its Leaders Remain Silent

## Avraham Burg

The Zionist revolution has always rested on two pillars: a just path and an ethical leadership. Neither of these is operative any longer. The Israeli nation today rests on a scaffolding of corruption, and on foundations of oppression and injustice. As such, the end of the Zionist enterprise is already on our doorstep. There is a real chance that ours will be the last Zionist generation. There may yet be a Jewish state here, but it will be a different sort, strange and ugly.

There is time to change course, but not much. What is needed is a new vision of a just society and the political will to implement it. Nor is this merely an internal Israeli affair. Diaspora Jews for whom Israel is a central pillar of their identity must pay heed and speak out. If the pillar collapses, the upper floors will come crashing down.

The opposition does not exist, and the coalition, with Arik Sharon at its head, claims the right to remain silent. In a nation of chatterboxes, everyone has suddenly fallen dumb, because there's nothing left to say. We live in a thunderously failed reality. Yes, we have revived the Hebrew language, created a marvelous theater and a strong national currency. Our Jewish minds are as sharp as ever. We are traded on the Nasdaq. But is this why we created a state? The Jewish people did not survive for two millennia in order to pioneer new weaponry, computer security programs or anti- missile missiles. We were supposed to be a light unto the nations. In this we have failed.

It turns out that the 2,000-year struggle for Jewish survival comes down to a state of settlements, run by an amoral clique of corrupt lawbreakers who are deaf both to their citizens and to their enemies. A state lacking justice cannot survive. More and more Israelis are coming to understand this as they ask their children where they expect to live in 25 years. Children who are honest admit, to their parents' shock, that they do not know. The countdown to the end of Israeli society has begun.

It is very comfortable to be a Zionist in West Bank settlements such as Beit El and Ofra. The biblical landscape is charming. From the window you can gaze through the geraniums and bougainvilleas and not see the occupation. Traveling on the fast highway at takes you from Ramot on Jerusalem's northern edge to Gilo on the southern edge, a 12-minute trip that skirts barely a half-mile west of the Palestinian roadblocks, it's hard to comprehend the humiliating experience of the despised Arab who must creep for hours along the pocked, blockaded roads assigned to him. One road for the occupier, one road for the occupied.

This cannot work. Even if the Arabs lower their heads and swallow their shame and anger forever, it won't work. A structure built on human callousness will inevitably collapse in on itself. Note this moment well: Zionism's superstructure is already collapsing like a cheap Jerusalem wedding hall. Only madmen continue dancing on the top floor while the pillars below are collapsing.

We have grown accustomed to ignoring the suffering of the women at the roadblocks. No wonder we don't hear the cries of the abused woman living next door or the single mother struggling to support er childrehe in dignity. We don't even bother to count the women murdered by their husbands.

Israel, having ceased to care about the children of the Palestinians, should not be surprised when they come washed in hatred and blow themselves up in the centers of Israeli escapism. They consign themselves to

***The Jewish people did not survive for two millennia in order to pioneer new weaponry, computer security programs or anti- missile missiles. We were supposed to be a light unto the nations. In this we have failed.***

Allah in our places of recreation, because their own lives are torture. They spill their own blood in our restaurants in order to ruin our appetites, because they have children and parents at home who are hungry and humiliated.

We could kill a thousand ringleaders and engineers a day and nothing

will be solved, because the leaders come up from below from the wells of hatred and anger, from the "infrastructures" of injustice and moral corruption.

If all this were inevitable, divinely ordained and immutable, I would be silent. But things could be different, and so crying out is a moral imperative.

Here is what the prime minister should say to the people:

The time for illusions is over. The time for decisions has arrived. We love the entire land of our forefathers and in some other time we would have wanted to live here alone. But that will not happen. The Arabs, too, have dreams and needs.

Between the Jordan and the Mediterranean there is no longer a clear Jewish majority. And so, fellow citizens, it is not possible to keep the whole thing without paying a price. We cannot keep a Palestinian majority under an Israeli boot and at the same time think ourselves the only democracy in the Middle East. There cannot be democracy without equal rights for all who live here, Arab as well as Jew. We cannot keep the territories and preserve a Jewish majority in the world's only Jewish state not by means that are humane and moral and Jewish.

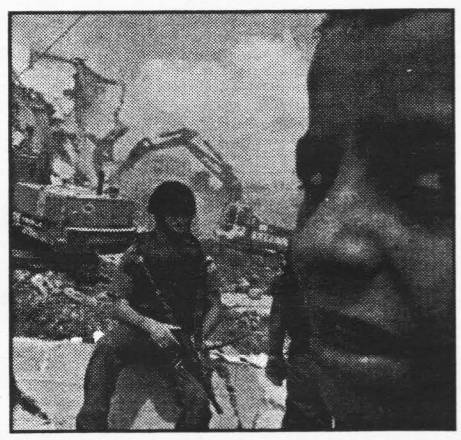
Do you want the greater Land of Israel? No problem. Abandon democracy. Let's institute an efficient system of racial separation here, with prison camps and detention villages. Qalqilya Ghetto and Gulag Jenin.

Do you want a Jewish majority? No problem. Either put the Arabs on railway cars, buses, camels and donkeys and expel them en masse or separate ourselves from them absolutely, without tricks and gimmicks. There is no middle path. We must remove all the settlements all of them and draw an internationally recognized border between the Jewish national home and the Palestinian national home. The Jewish Law of Return will apply only within our national home, and their right of return will apply only within the borders of the Palestinian state.

Do you want democracy? No problem. Either abandon the greater Land of Israel, to the last settlement and outpost, or give full citizenship and voting rights to everyone, including Arabs. The result, of course, will be that those who did not want a Palestinian state alongside us will have one in our midst, via the ballot box.

That's what the prime minister should say to the people. He should present the choices forthrightly: Jewish racialism or democracy. Settlements or hope for both peoples. False visions of barbed wire, roadblocks and suicide bombers, or a recognized international border between two states and a shared capital in Jerusalem.

But there is no prime minister in Jerusalem. The disease eating away at the body of Zionism has already attacked the head. David Ben-Gurion sometimes erred, but he remained straight as an arrow. When Menachem Begin was wrong, nobody impugned his motives. No longer. Polls published last weekend showed that a majority of Israelis do not believe in the personal integrity of the prime minister yet they trust his political leadership. In other words, Israel's current prime minister personally embodies both halves of the curse: suspect personal morals and open disregard for the law combined with the



brutality of occupation and the trampling of any chance for peace. This is our nation, these its leaders. The inescapable conclusion is that the Zionist revolution is dead.

Why, then, is the opposition so quiet? Perhaps because it's summer, or because they are tired, or because some would like to join the government at any price, even the price of participating in the sickness. But while they dither, the forces of good lose hope.

This is the time for clear alternatives. Anyone who declines to present a clear-cut position black or white is in effect collaborating in the decline. It is not a matter of Labor versus Likud or right versus left, but of right versus wrong, acceptable versus unacceptable. The law-abiding versus the lawbreakers. What's needed is not a political replacement for the Sharon government but a vision of hope, an alternative to the destruction of Zionism and its values by the deaf, dumb and callous.

Israel's friends abroad Jewish and non-Jewish alike, presidents and prime ministers, rabbis and lay people should choose as well. They must reach out and help Israel to navigate the road map toward our national destiny as a light unto the nations and a society of peace, justice and equality.

*Avraham Burg was speaker of Israel's Knesset from 1999 to 2003 and is a former chairman of the Jewish Agency for Israel. He is currently a Labor Party Knesset member.*

*This essay is reprinted with permission. You can receive the biweekly "Shalom Report" by writing <www.shalomctr.org/subscribe.html> Rabbi Arthur Waskow, Director, The Shalom Center <www.shalomctr.org>*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# A New Jail Please, Hold the Justice

## Pirate Press News Service

Thurston county politicians are working hard behind the scenes to build a $100 million jail. Local politicians hand picked the "citizen's panel" in an attempt to limit public dialogue and debate on the issue. As they have with the convention center, local politicians are again inventing ways to spend our tax money. But unlike the convention center, local residents have yet to publicly express their outrage on the issue.

The reason given by politicians to justify building another jail is that the current one is full. The current jail population is sometimes nearly double the jail's current capacity of 358. In fact, there are so many people being locked up in Thurston County that authorities are sending inmates to Yakima. For local politicians who make the policies and decisions which fill the jail, it seems logical and easy to build another jail rather than tackle the reasons our local jail population is exploding.

According to the Olympian on Aug. 14th, Thurston County currently spends 75 percent of its general fund on criminal justice costs.

Whatcom, $179.84 per person with 166,814 persons.

Kitsap, $189.68 per person with 231,969 persons.

Clark, $195.23 per person with 345,238 persons.

Thurston, $202.55 per person with 207,355 persons.

Source: August 14th Olympian story by Heather Woodward.

Local politicians are scratching their heads to find ways to lower the cost of the proposed jail. One idea is to raise sales taxes and/or property taxes. Another idea is to slash anything possibly rehabilitative about jail. According to a Sept. 6th article in the Olympian, the proposed cuts

"...include eliminating space for city of Olympia probation and treatment programs and scaling back space for inmate education and counseling. The areas for jail staff members to eat, receive training and store their belongings also have been chopped in half."

Local politicians believe that if they keep the cost under $100 million that the voting public will swallow it with a spoonful of sugar.

***This fortune is spent locking up our local community, rather than giving us the tools to prevent the problems which result in arrests and jail time.***

That's over $202 per person in the county, a total of $42 million each year. This fortune is spent locking up our local community, rather than giving us the tools to prevent the problems which result in arrests and jail time. The Olympian adds that this percentage is higher than other counties in Western Washington which are the size of Thurston County. The per capita criminal justice costs for four Washington counties with similar sizes are:

The Sept. 6th article in the Olympian ends with Thurston County Commission Chairwoman Cathy Wolfe taunting her constituency with this gem: "I'm not hearing any red flags."

Maybe Cathy Wolfe and other local politicians need us to bring out the red flags for them to see and our voices to hear how horribly regressive the new jail proposal sounds to us.

*(Israel's Assassination Policy, continued)*

he took these actions precisely because he sought a violent Palestinian response. It appears that the only thing more threatening for Ariel Sharon's government than Palestinian terrorism is a Palestinian cease-fire.

By the same token, militant Palestinian groups must be condemned in the strongest terms for seizing upon Sharon's provocations through their myopic preoccupation with revenge through suicide bombing that has brought untold misery upon both Israelis and Palestinians.

Suicide bombings against Israeli civilians are clearly not the only option they could undertake in response to assassinations or any other Israeli provocation. A sustained guerilla campaign against settlers and soldiers and the infrastructure of occupation in the occupied terroritories, which sends a clear political message to Israeli's that the conflict is over the occupation and not Israel's existence, is far more dangerous to Sharon and his right wing allies.

Palestinian militants have, in effect, aligned themselves with Israel's expansionist right-wing by providing the crucial pretext for Sharon to reoccupy and lay siege to Palestinian population centers, seize more Palestinian land for Israeli settlements and to build a barrier around Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza that traps them within tiny enclaves.

Nevertheless, based on the evidence from the past few years, Israel's actions are of incomparably greater significance for ending these attacks than those of Prime Minister Abbas and what little remains of his decimated security services. At a minimum, Israel should immediately cease its assassination campaign. The escalation of these assassinations illustrated by the August 22 assassination of the major Hamas spokesman Ismail Abu Shanub in Gaza, widely seen as a Hamas moderate, is a clear sign that the Sharon government is concerned more about its own extremist political agenda than it is for Israeli civilian lives.

While Palestinians must do what they can to end suicide bombings, it is past time to rethink Israel's assassination policy. They make it impossible for Palestinian authorities to undertake steps to reign in the militant groups without risking a major civil war and fuel popular support for retaliation.

Given all the carnage that can be traced to Israel's assassination policy, the only remaining question is why more Israelis and their supporters abroad are not in the forefront against it.

*Steve Niva is a professor of international politics and Middle East Studies at The Evergreen State College, Olympia, Washington. He is an associate of the Middle East Research and Information Project, writes occassionally for its magazine Middle East Report, and has had articles published in Al-Ahram Weekly, The Jordan Times and Peace Review. This article was originally featured on the Electronic Intifada and a shorter version at Counterpunch.*


**"Fostering Alternatives to Violence"**

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**October 9-12, 2003**

**The Evergreen State College**

**Olympia, WA.**

**The Conference will focus on the work of peace educators, researchers, and activists who foster alternatives to violence in our homes, schools, communities and in the national and international arenas. speakers and artists include: Naomi Klein, Paul Loeb, Pramila Jayapal, Peter McLaren, Sam Hammil, Shailja Patel and Prince Myshkin.**

**For more information, visit us at www.peacejusticestudies.org.**



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# Announcements, etc.

## MEDIA ISLAND'S NEW WEBSITE!!

### Local, alternative news made simple

Media Island has updated its outpost on the Internet and you're invited to stop on by. Check out the new Media Island International website (www.mediaisland.org) an information research and dispensing tool for the community. Learn about numerous issues and participate by submitting articles, calendar event listings, analysis, artwork, photographs, and calls to action. We invite individuals and groups to post your goings on at the very easy to use mediaisland.org, expanding your readership beyond e-mail lists and combining all of our audiences. Add your favorite local and international articles to the site or write your own. Promote your fundraisers. Post progress reports on campaigns, programs and projects. This community has a lot going on and we aim to make Media Island's new site a hub of information where people will go to find out where to get involved and what's happening no matter their interest.

Aside from participating, we hope this site becomes something Olympia will check back with frequently to read news they won't find anywhere else. Media Island International focuses on subjects often under, or poorly, reported, sometimes even ignored by mainstream media. The more people who submit to the site, the more information there will be for all of us. We at the Island are interested in working with you. Take a look-see and drop an e-mail off to webmaster@mediaisland.org, call us at 360.556.0816, or drop by the newly reopened and revamped Island itself at 816 Adams St, right across from the Timberland Library. Let us know what you think and tell us your needs for radical web publishing in the South Puget Sound area, or let us know if your group would like one of our webmasters to give a presentation about the site and its possibilities at your next meeting.

The world is watching, and the truth is getting harder to hide!

## EGYHOP Needs Blankets for Homeless

The Emma Goldman Youth and Homeless Outreach Project (EGYHOP) **is in° immediate (and ongoing) need of blankets and all camping gear** for homeless individuals in our community.

EGYHOP provides a friendly face, direct services, and material assistance for Olympia's homeless and is grant and donation funded.

EGYHOP has been the recipient° of several small grants to fund their services, such as the Community Sustaining Fund. Winter is coming and EGYHOP outreach workers go through approximately 400-500 blankets and hundreds of dollars worth of socks as they make their rounds.

Please consider donating your old or new blankets and sleeping bags to EGYHOP. They are also in need of direct cash donations, and will provide tax deductible receipts for all cash donations. Donations of used bikes will also go directly to homeless and low-income folks through EGYHOP's Bicycle Project.

Lastly, EGYHOP is in need of volunteer fundraising assistance. This could be a great opportunity for a student to gain some experience fundraising for this local community nonprofit. A concert or other fundraiser would be supported by a homeless crew and the project staff.

Thanks in advance for all your kind help!

You can contact EGYHOP for donation pick up by calling the project coordinator, Long Hair David at 791-2241, or dropping your donation by 1103 E 5th Ave, directly across the street of the Armory (green triplex, please leave on porch if noone is home.)

## Community Sustaining Fund of Thurston County Fall Grant Information

**The deadline for receipt of Sustaining Fund grant applications for this cycle is Friday, October 31.**

**For questions, please call Vic Colman, Board member, at 956-9344.**

## "Making a difference around the World"

### A Celebration and Information Fair

Many of us feel like we can make no difference in the world, and cataclysmic events are just going to happen no matter what we do. We can cheer or criticize or look away, but ultimately we have no influence on world events.Thankfully this feeling is not universal. Thousands of people and hundreds of organizations in our community are reaching out across the world to make a difference every day. Come to a celebration of commitment and positive global action on **Saturday October 25th from 1 to 4:30pm at the Lacey Timberland Library, 500 College St SE.** A diverse group of representatives from local organizations working on humanitarian, human rights or peace activism around the world will be there to talk with you about what they are doing and why. Come acknowledge and celebrate their commitment, enjoy refreshments, and find out about opportunities for you to make a difference in the world. For more information, to participate or to volunteer, please call John East at 705-1687 or email fstop64@comcast.net

## Remember Seattle? March to Miami!

The Alliance for Sustainable Jobs and the Environment (ASJE) will launch its "March to Miami" just after Labor Day of 2003 in Seattle, where Teamsters and environmental activists first marched together to protest trans-national corporate arrogance and the World Trade Organization. The March will caravan across the northern tier of states to Minnesota, then head south through Minneapolis, Chicago, Indianapolis, and Atlanta to the next meeting of the Free Trade of the Americas Agreement (FTAA) Trade Ministers in Miami, November 20 and 21, 2003.

°Events along the way will include rallies, teach-ins, and "blue-green summits", which will address fair trade issues and inspire and solidify regional labor/environmental organizing committees with specific projects based on the experiences of ASJE's Working Groups in energy, global trade, rogue corporations, and forest and jobs restoration. Stops along the March will educate constituencies about the dangers the FTAA's "trade-in-services" provisions pose to our public services, construction trades and domestic manufacturing. The March will also swell the flow of people converging on events in Miami.

The AFSE hopes to highlight the local efforts of blue-green allies such as the AFL-CIO's citizen referendum to stop the FTAA, the AFL-CIO's Freedom Bus Campaign for Immigrant Rights, the International Longshore Workers Union's American Solidarity campaign, as well as state level fair trade campaigns, anti-globalization groups, and environmental organizations.

The ASJE is a groundbreaking alliance of labor and environmentalists that is forming a feisty and potent partnership that protects people and the planet.

**The Alliance was born out of a struggle against the Maxxam Corporation by steelworkers and environmentalists.** The power of ASJE to challenge corporate hegemony grew out of a surprising alliance between two movements with distinct constituencies and organizational cultures. When direct action environmental groups who had engaged the courage and creativity of youth encountered a militant labor union that was examining its own history, mobilizing its rank and file, and seeking new community-based allies, a new possibility of political power was born.

Labor and environmentalists both bring vital experience into the alliance. Organized labor is very aware of the chicanery and repression corporations typically resort to, and have experience in dealing with it. Environmentalists have a working knowledge of how corporate practices affect our communities and have done a good job of educating the public about how corporate power is at odds with environmental health.

For decades, polluting profiteers have claimed that we must choose between "jobs vs. the environment". Corporations have used this as a wedge issue to divide labor and environmentalists. The successful merging of these two movements into an alliance around something that is vital to everyone - good work in a healthy community — gives hope. With that hope arises the possibility that by working together, "common" people have the power to challenge corporate hegemony and achieve a measure of social and environmental justice and change the world we live in.

ASJE's mission is to nurture this new possibility by building a strong and broad-based national network of local and regional blue-green alliances. In this way, we will help create the basis for a new social contract in which "nature is protected, the worker is respected, and unrestrained corporate power is rejected."

For more information on the Alliance and its founding principles, see: http://www.asje.org.

If your organization would like to join the March and help plan a local event, rally or educational blue/green forum, contact Dan Leahy, Executive Director of ASJE at (503) 736-9777, or e-mail leahyd@evergreen.com.

# The Jade Lantern

Publication of the Green Party of South Puget Sound

## Green Party Thinking: Three Strategies for 2004 . . . .

### PROMOTE NEW IDEAS!

By Walt Shepperd

In 1991 Paul Glover printed what he called "local tender." Called Ithaca Hours, Glover's bills were a half-inch narrower than traditional American greenbacks, a quarter-inch taller and significantly more colorful. The images on the bills were of salamanders and babies, beetles and maps of the Cayuga Lake basin. "Thousands of people, 12 years later, have traded millions of dollars worth of this money," he notes.

Based on a guaranteed backing in human activity, Ithaca Hours notes proclaim "Time is Money" and "In Ithaca We Trust." Each note "entitles the bearer to receive [a certain amount of] labor or goods or services." One aim of the program, Glover adds, is to recycle the wealth of the community within the community.

"I specialize in selling things people never heard of," he says. "Asking for people to give me $100 each for the Health Fund was very difficult for the first few years, but now people are joining readily because for $100 a year, it's a very good deal."

The success of Ithaca Hours and his launching of the Ithaca Health Fund, an alternative health insurance plan, and the Whole Ithaca Stock Exchange, a mutual enterprise system for community development, landed Glover on the Green Party's search list for a 2004 presidential candidate.

"They sent out a letter to 40 people, inviting us to consider being a candidate," he says. "Only three people responded. I responded not with any expectation to actually become the candidate but to contribute to the primary discussion of the Green message for 2004."

Says Glover of his anticipated contributions to the primary debate, "My emphasis would be on the practical programs we could establish at the grass-roots level, within every bio-region, and ultimately nationally, by which basic needs are met. . . . "

Glover feels strongly about his party's function. "The early role for a third party is the priority of getting new ideas before the public," he insists. "That's historically been the role of third parties.

"Many things now accepted as normal policy were advanced by third parties: the Socialist Party with welfare, the eight-hour day, Social Security and Medicaid, all proposed by a bunch of radicals who were considered dangerous at the time. Votes for women.

"When Virginia Woodhouse ran as the first woman candidate for president in 1876 on a platform of votes for women, she was lampooned in cartoons as the devil. New ideas are always considered dangerous. . . ."

### RECRUIT FROM THE DEMOCRATS! By Ted Glick

I recently had the opportunity to hear Dennis Kucinich speak, and I took advantage of it. I was not disappointed. I was impressed by Kucinich's consistently progressive positions on every issue he addressed or was asked about. He came across genuine and honest.

It is critical that those of us who are actively working to build a genuinely progressive party recognize that there are really two Democratic Parties, and that in one of them are to be found many of the people essential to the emergence of a visible, effective and powerful progressive party.

How are we going to construct a strong progressive alternative to the Dems and Reps, one capable of seriously challenging for power? In my view there are three major aspects to this process.

1. We need to run candidates on "third party" lines and build up independent organizational forms engaged in grassroots organizing.
2. We have to be about changing the electoral rules of the game. We need instant runoff voting and, longer-term, proportional representation. We need clean money, public financing of elections.
3. Strategically, we must build unity of action with the forces inside the Democratic Party who are open to or moving towards independence.

Why do we need to relate to progressive Democrats? One good example of why is Nader. Where would the Green Party be right now if Ralph Nader had not decided in 1996 to allow the Greens to use his name as their Presidential candidate?

Nader had been in and around Democratic Party circles for close to 30 years. His decision to move outside those circles made a huge difference for the Greens, giving them national visibility and confidence they did not have before this time.

Imagine the national political impact if the internal struggle between the Democratic Party's progressive and centrist/conservative wings, combined with the growth of the Greens and other independent political efforts, leads to a significant number of progressive defections to the Greens/the independents.

Is this an unrealistic hope? I don't think so. There is a great deal of discontent at the grassroots of the Democratic Party over the Republican-lite policies it has often followed for many years.

A damn-both-the-parties, down-with-all-the-Democrats approach, while perhaps feeling more radical and righteous, is at best a prescription for slow growth. While at times that's the most that can be hoped for, given the many crises facing us today, it just doesn't cut it. Especially when we may be on the verge of something much more profound and significant. . .

### HUNKER DOWN!

By Greg Gerritt

Today I am responding to the various things I have seen written by Greens and others who are not Greens about what the Green Party of the US should do in 2004.

When Greens, committed Greens, get together there is usually some synergy to be had . . . but the nuance of the strategy to be used remains to be seen, and will take shape in the context of the race and the world.

Greens bemoan, as much as anything, that no candidate has jumped into the fray and we have no one to work for. A few say join the Kucinich or Dean camps, but only a few, and some of those tell us to do that to draw folks back to the Greens when the DLC squashes them. A few say sit it out and join the Anybody But Bush herd, mostly based on Bush as the end of the world.

I have heard the end of the world routine before. I do not buy it, and question the political savvy of those who believe it. Should I base my strategy on their word?

My strategy is always keep moving forward, keep your eyes open, be ready for storms. Hunker down when you need to, move forward the rest of the time. Act like an ecosystem, a little river, a flowing herd. Be diverse, test many strategies, do not put all eggs in one basket, use the naturally occurring channels and be prepared to adapt quickly, but always keep your eyes on the prize.

I see 2004 as a big storm for us. It will be a struggle, hunkering down may be an option, but I see us also taking opportunities to move forward, expand and grow. I see us getting hammered from all sides no matter what we do. I see us taking advantage of opportunities, helping people step forward, getting our message into more hands, bringing in new activists even if we get fewer votes for president.

I see a presidential campaign helping us grow into places with no Greens now, even if no one steps forward into the nomination. I am starting to see a little bit of a campaign forming, websites going on line, a very occasional campaign stop. I look forward to having to adapt time and again in the next year as the landscape shifts and the storm clouds gather.

I look forward to the developments, and invite everyone to participate, to help make their dream happen. . .

UPDATE ON THE

### HANFORD NUCLEAR SITE INITIATIVE

You see them everywhere: the volunteers with those petitions. To reach the 2004 ballot, 200,000 signatures are needed. Heart of America NW has plans to pay workers for 140,000 but another 100,000 will be gathered by volunteers. The organization will cull the list for valid signatures and hopes to have the final list ready by December.

The Green Party has endorsed this effort and all members have petitions to fill.

Background for newcomers: The Hanford Nuclear Reservation has been polluted since the 1960's, stemming from its use to produce nuclear weapons. Its old wastes are leaking towards the Columbia River. It has been a Superfund site since 1989.

Now the government wishes to reclassify the wastes as "incidental." They are the same lethal wastes but if reclassified, the cleanup effort will cease.

Current practice puts wastes into unlined trenches; 70,000 more trucks of waste are headed for these inadequate receptacles. Indeed, the site has been designated a radioactive disposal site for the nation.

Initiative 297 requires contamination at Hanford to be cleaned up before more waste is added. New waste must be added in approved manner, in concrete lined trenches. The initiative also requires public, tribal and local government participation in planning.

Be ready to sign the petition when it reaches you. If you have questions about the situation, go to www.heartofamericanorthwest.org on the web.

To help with this effort, call Janet Jordan at 352-0779; she will have petitions for you to pick up, and tips on filling them out.

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